

■ **METRO/A15**  
**Pacquiao to face**  
**ex-lover, son in**  
**QC court today**

■ **WORLD/A18**  
**More intriguing**  
**questions over**  
**Milosevic's death**



■ **NEWS/A2**  
**Senate debate**  
**on martial law lifting**  
**sends Jamby crying**

■ **ACROSS/A7**  
**Bulacan folk seek**  
**stop to quarrying at**  
**Biak-na-Bato nat'l park**

## Bunye leaves it to AFP to file case vs Inquirer

By Christine O. Avendaño, Michael Lim Ubac, Daxim L. Lucas and Alcuin Papa

IT'S UP TO THE MILITARY IF IT WANTS TO PUSH ahead and file a case against the Inquirer for publishing a series of articles on the events leading up to the aborted military coup on Feb. 24, according to Press Secretary Ignacio Bunye.

"We leave it to the parties involved," Bunye said when asked if the Palace was assuming a BUNYE/A6

email: feedback@inquirer.com.ph

# PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER

BALANCED NEWS, FEARLESS VIEWS

Tuesday, March 14, 2006

★★

4 sections / Vol. 21 / No. 96 P18

website: www.inq7.net

WARRANTLESS/A4

## Warrantless arrest? Cops learn how from Miriam

By Luigi A. del Puerto

POLICEMEN DO NOT need a warrant of arrest if they catch [someone] in flagrante delicto, according to Sen. Miriam Defensor-Santiago in her lecture to cops on how to

PARA SA SUSUNOD, WALANG GUSOT?!



## Lawyers warn GMA on abuse of power

By TJ Burgonio

WHILE SHE HAD LIFTED IT, President Macapagal-Arroyo cannot escape culpability for "arbitrary acts" carried out by the military and police during the week-long state of national emergency she had declared.

The head of the lawyers' Free Legal Assistance Group (FLAG) yesterday expressed this view in the Senate inquiry into the warrantless arrest of protesters, a party-list lawmaker and perceived critics of the President, as well as the ban on rallies.

Maria Socorro I. Diokno, FLAG secretary general, pointed out that after issuing Presidential Proclamation No. 1017, the Arroyo administration came out with General Orders No. 5 and No. 6 under the "clear instruction and directives" of the President.

GO 5 directed the Armed Forces of the Philippines to maintain the peace and public order and suppress lawless violence, while the less publicized GO 6 directed the AFP to coordinate with the national police.

"Everything that has been done as a result of Proclamation No. 1017, General Order No. 5, General Order No. 6 were with the knowledge, consent, direction and instruction of Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo," Diokno said.

"And, therefore, she can't escape culpability for any wrongdoing that may have happened as a result of these directives," she added.

Appearing at the same hearing, retired Supreme Court Justice Vicente Mendoza said the President could be held liable if the evidence would show that she had authorized these "arbitrary acts."

"If it's proven in court that she authorized these, when there's no declaration of martial law or suspension of the privilege [of the writ of habeas corpus], I would think that these are arbitrary acts,"

LAWYERS/A6

# Army builds special jail for coup plotters



PRESIDENT Macapagal-Arroyo hands over a P1-million check to Army chief Lt. Gen. Hermogenes Esperon during ceremonies for the Kawal Kalinga housing project in Fort Magsaysay in Palayan City, Nueva Ecija. Looking on is Armed Forces Chief of Staff Gen. Generoso Senga.

## But Church groups offering safe haven

By Dona Z. Pazzibugan and Christian V. Esguerra

WHILE THE ARMY IS building maximum security cells for destabilizers, the country's Roman Catholic priests and nuns are opening their convents to what one priest called "victims of political repression."

The double-walled, barbed-wired military compound was actually the former detention facility for ousted President Joseph Estrada in Tanay, Rizal.

It is located inside Camp Capinpin, the headquarters of the Army 2nd Infantry Division, and has three rooms, Army chief Lt. Gen. Hermogenes Esperon said.

Laborers watched over by soldiers are completing its construction at a time when the military is cracking down on officers and soldiers allegedly involved in the plot to topple President Macapagal-Arroyo.

The facility lies across the highway from Estrada's resthouse, to where the ex-President was moved last year and where he has since been staying under "house arrest" while on trial for plunder.

Reporters who visited Camp Capinpin on Saturday were barred from peeking into the compound.

Double concrete walls topped by barbed wire surround the detention cells. Between the two walls is a pathway for patrolling guards. Guard posts and watch towers with huge searchlights have been installed.

"If we're going to detain anyone there, we're really going to be serious about jailing them. We're building a jail for those who deserve to be jailed," Esperon told reporters.

"When you are inside that detention cell you are the most secured individual," he said.

Asked if destabilizers were among the persons to be held there, Esperon said: "Kasama na, kasi yung (They are included because) destabilization is also a violation of the Articles of War. So

ARMY/A6

## Senga: I was in control during coup try

By Dona Z. Pazzibugan and Philip C. Tubeza

GEN. GENEROSO SENGAYesterday dismissed suggestions that he was not in control when elite military units challenged President Macapagal-Arroyo, saying the major service commanders were simply following his orders as Armed Forces chief of staff.

Senga sent a statement to the

INQUIRER reacting to its report that Army chief Lt. Gen. Hermogenes Esperon's preemptive moves stopped Brig. Gen. Danilo Lim, commander of the First Scout Regiment, and Col. Ariel Querubin, commander of the First Marine Brigade based in Marawi City, from withdrawing support from Ms Arroyo.

Senga said Esperon, Navy chief Vice Admiral Mateo Mayuga and

Air Force chief Lt. Gen. Jose Reyes were following his instructions during the critical hours on Feb. 24 when Lim's alleged effort to break away from the President was aborted.

"They were all part of our coordinated actions... We were all together until the early morning of Feb. 24," he said. In a text message to the Inquirer, he added: "I'm not claiming any credit, just clarifying."

But Sen. Joker Arroyo said the series of reports published by the Inquirer on the Feb. 24 coup attempt showed that the political opposition had become irrelevant and that the consequential decisions regarding the fate of the country during the crisis were made by generals.

Arroyo said that when the country's political crisis wors-

SENGA/A4

## Cops present hooded witness vs Batasan 5



MILITANT party-list lawmakers (from left) Joel Virador, Teddy Casiño, Liza Maiza, Satur Ocampo and Rafael Mariano welcome with a protest the scheduled preliminary investigation of rebellion charges against them.

By Armand N. Nocum

POLICE YESTERDAY PRODUCED a hooded witness complete with a bullet-proof vest in a bid to pin down six party-list congressmen facing rebellion charges for allegedly plotting to overthrow President Macapagal-Arroyo.

Claiming to be a communist cadre, Jaime B. Fuentes said he was able to witness meetings supposedly attended by the six lawmakers to topple the Arroyo administration on Feb. 24.

"If the (plan) fails, we will still push through with our operation plan to oust (the President) in 100 days, the deadline of which falls on May 1, 2006," he said in

COPS/A4



WEARING a hood and a bullet-proof vest, police witness Jaime Beltran Fuentes appears at the Department of Justice.

## House probe of CD on 'break-in' urged

By Norman Bordadora and Michael Lim Ubac

AFTER THE AUDIO TAPE COMES THE VIDEO CD controversy.

A compact disc shown to the INQUIRER last week contained footage of an alleged break-in at the South Wing of the Batasan complex in Quezon City where ballot boxes full of election returns of the 2004 national elections were kept, the INQUIRER reported Monday.

Reacting to the report, the opposition in

the House of Representatives yesterday called for an investigation of the switching of ballots.

"This is a confirmation of what we were saying during the impeachment proceedings that there was a break-in and switching of the ballot boxes containing election documents (that may provide the basis for the election protest against President Macapagal-Arroyo and Vice President Noli de Castro)," said House Minority Leader Francis Escudero of Sorsogon.

Malacañang dismissed the CD of the alleged break-in as another "play" by destabilizers.

"This is a never-ending attempt to resuscitate the electoral fraud issue. They want to keep this alive in the minds of the public. But they have failed once too often," Press Secretary Ignacio Bunye said at a briefing.

Allies of Ms Arroyo in the House quashed in September last year an impeachment com-

HOUSE/A6

## Price tag: P200M, P30M, P3M, ...

By Gerry Lirio

HOW MUCH IS THIS HOT COMPACT disc worth?

The price of the CD containing footage of an alleged break-in at a room in the House of Representatives where the ballot boxes used in the 2004 presidential election were stored was initially set at P200 million, according to several opposition leaders.

The CD showed six House civilian employees allegedly stealing election returns from a room at the

House's South Wing between January 2005 and February 2005. The election returns were from 38 provinces.

After they realized that they had a gold mine in mid-2005, House security officers who were involved in the break-in either played or peddled the CD to several opposition leaders, including Senators Panfilo Lacson and Rodolfo Blazon, former Sen. Loren Legarda, San Juan Rep. Ronaldo Zamora, Lacson's former

PRICE/A6



## Second FRONT PAGE

Text us your feedback: Inquirer news name/age/city/message to 2207 (Globe) or 283 (Smart)

## WEATHER FORECAST

FORECAST: Luzon will experience mostly cloudy skies with scattered rainshowers and isolated thunderstorms becoming more frequent over Northeastern Luzon. Eastern Visayas and Mindanao will have cloudy skies with scattered rainshowers and isolated thunderstorms. The rest of the country will be cloudy with rainshowers.

COMPILED BY KATE PEDROSO, FOR RESEARCH/03/13/06 SOURCE: PAGASA

Metro Manila	Partly Cloudy	Bohol	Partly Cloudy
Batavia	Partly Cloudy	Cebu	Partly Cloudy
Davao	Partly Cloudy	Iloilo	Partly Cloudy
General Santos	Partly Cloudy	Manila	Partly Cloudy
Marikina	Partly Cloudy	Quezon	Partly Cloudy
Palawan	Partly Cloudy	San Francisco	Partly Cloudy
San Jose	Partly Cloudy	Tagaytay	Partly Cloudy
Surigao	Partly Cloudy	Visayas	Partly Cloudy

## Senate debate sends Jamby crying

By TJ Burgonio

AN OTHERWISE ORDINARY SESSION AT THE Senate yesterday afternoon turned into high drama when Sen. Juan Ponce Enrile engaged Sen. Jamby Madrigal in an emotionally charged debate over the reason behind the lifting of martial law.

In the end, Madrigal, hurt by Enrile's insinuation that her family had partied with the Marcoses in Malacañang during martial law, broke down in tears and walked out of the session hall, prompting the suspension of the proceedings.

She returned shortly afterwards and, at her request, Senate President Franklin Drilon adjourned the session.

"There's never a dull moment in the Senate," a senator was heard saying.

The tussle began when, at the start of the session, Madrigal rose to ask that Enrile's criticism of her privilege speech last week, in which she said martial law was lifted in 1981 to clear the way for the visit of Pope John Paul II, be stricken off the record.

Enrile stood up and objected to this, pointing out that her motion was based on opinions and surmises.

Madrigal, in a privilege speech



ENRILE: Formidable foe

last week, said that then President Ferdinand Marcos lifted martial law on Jan. 17, 1981 "to make possible the visit of Pope John Paul II." Enrile called her "reckless" and a "purveyor of falsehood."



SEN. Jamby Madrigal is comforted by Sen. Miriam Defensor-Santiago after a tiff with Sen. Juan Ponce Enrile Monday. Enrile said the Madrigals partied with the Marcoses during the Martial Law years.

ROGER MARGALLO

In her manifestation, Madrigal struck back at Enrile, saying he himself had confirmed during the February 1986 People Power revolt that the ambush against him on Sept. 22, 1972 was a pretext for the declaration of mar-

tial law. This riled Enrile, who insisted that he did not fake the ambush to "justify martial law" and went as far as to say that Antonio and Amanda Madrigal—the senator's parents—partied with the Mar-

coses during martial law.

"They were partying with the Marcoses, including her uncle, the husband of her aunt, Chito Madrigal. I would like to know if she's related to these people," he said.

At this point, Sen. Miriam Defensor-Santiago stood to remind the chamber that there was a pending motion and proposed that this should be "put on the table," but Enrile pressed on with his opposition to Madrigal's motion.

Madrigal then stood up to say she would not debate with Enrile to dignify his "uncalled for" remarks and broke down.

"I get emotional,

Mr. President, because his bullying tactics being done to me today, are being done to us by the President of the Philippines and it is not nice to countenance this in the Senate," she said.

## Inquirer, newspaper dealers forge deal

A PLANNED BOYCOTT OF the INQUIRER by a group of newspaper dealers was averted yesterday.

"The situation is back to normal. The dealers have agreed to dialogue with us to improve the distribution program," said Rene Reinoso, INQUIRER senior vice president for sales and marketing.

Days after it had called for a boycott, the Print Media Dealers Organization of the Philippines (PMDO) signed a memorandum of understanding with the Inquirer and agreed to continue to dialogue with the paper.

"We've agreed to fine-tune the contents of the distribution system," said PMDO chair Danny Jose in a phone interview.

As part of the memorandum of understanding, the INQUIRER will temporarily suspend the roll-out of the "exclusive" distribution system in Metro Manila, Reinoso said.

He said the system would remain in effect, however, in Central Luzon where it has been in operation for two months.

The exclusivity was intended to give dealers "territorial integrity," and prevent other dealers from encroaching on areas designated for others, and in the end serve our readers better, Reinoso said.

He added the talks with the newspaper dealers would continue, while the implementation of the new system would take effect gradually. DJ Yap

## Suspected NPA rebel killed in Batangas clash

By Marlon Ramos  
PDI Southern Luzon Bureau

CALAMBA CITY — AN ALLEGED member of the New People's Army was killed when a group of suspected communist rebels drove past a checkpoint set up by the Philippine Air Force in Tuy, Batangas early yesterday and chose to shoot it out with pursuing soldiers, the military reported.

Lt. Col. Ruben Carandang, commander of the 730th Combat Group of PAF based in Nasugbu town,

identified the slain rebel as Crispin "Ka Charlie" Pantoja Katigbak, 33, a resident of Rillo St., Tuy town.

He said Katigbak was the driver of a dark blue sedan with five people aboard that refused to stop at a military roadblock in Barangay Putol at around 1:30 a.m., triggering a running gunbattle that lasted for nearly an hour.

The rebels left their bullet-riddled car several kilometers away from the checkpoint and fled on foot toward nearby mountains, Carandang said. Katigbak was

found dead, slumped at the wheel with several gunshot wounds.

No one was hurt among the soldiers, Carandang said.

Carandang said the soldiers had encountered the same group of rebels while they were supposedly extorting money from local residents and businessmen some 30 minutes before the shootout. He said the rebels fired on the soldiers, who then set up the roadblock with the help of local police.

During a follow-up operation, the military recovered several

firearms including a Galil rifle, three M16 rifles, an AR15 rifle, 33 fully-loaded M16 magazines, a Galil magazine. Also recovered were documents which an Air Force spokesman in Manila said confirmed the "unholy alliance" between Leftist and Rightist groups trying to oust President Macapagal-Arroyo.

"It appears that is what is indicated in the documents. But these are still being analyzed further," Lt. Col. Restituto Padilla told the Inquirer in a phone interview.

Meanwhile, the exiled leader of the Communist Party of the Philippines denied involvement in last month's alleged coup attempt, but called for stepped-up attacks on government forces.

In a statement from The Netherlands, Jose Maria Sison said he never endorsed "the non-existent coup attempt or coup conspiracy" although he backed a popular uprising and the military's withdrawal of support for Ms Arroyo. With reports from Nikko Dison and AFP

PLEASE CUT & SAVE THIS AD.  
ONE-TIME PRESS RELEASE ONLY.



## Essential Guide to Patents, Copyrights and Trademarks

The value of your ideas could be worth billions. Make sure you know how to secure them and turn them into commercial opportunities!

This course is a guide on how to protect your ideas, inventions, patents, copyrights, and trademarks. The lecture will include the principles and enforcement of intellectual property laws, as well as practical aspects of IP rights both in the Philippines and in foreign markets under the World Trade Organization (WTO) and the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO).

Participants will benefit by knowing how to secure IP rights locally and globally. Learn trade secrets and valuable information from the experts.

## Panel of Lecturers

**Atty. Gilbert T. Reyes** is known as an authority in the field of Intellectual Property Law. He has led many IP enforcement initiatives for clients including SMC, Intel, Levi's and other global firms. He is a Senior Partner & Head of Intellectual Property Department of the Poblador Bautista & Reyes Law Offices. He graduated Magna Cum Laude, from the U.P. College of Law in 1983.

**Atty. Jaime G. Hoflieña** is a Senior Partner at the Poblador Bautista & Reyes Law Offices. He has had foreign training (in Tokyo, Japan) in Industrial Property Rights and has accumulated years of experience in Intellectual Property Litigation and enforcement. He is class salutatorian of U.P. College of Law Batch '89.

**Atty. Brigitte da Costa-Villaluz** has nine years of solid experience in handling trademarks, patent registration, and intellectual property rights enforcement. She has extensive exposure in IP infringement, unfair competition cases, and opposition of trademark registrations. She is a senior associate at the Poblador Bautista & Reyes Law Offices. She graduated 2nd honors with a Juris Doctor degree from the Ateneo Law School in 1996.

**Atty. Adrian S. Cristobal, Jr.** is the director-general of the Intellectual Property Office. He was formerly DTI Undersecretary for Consumer Welfare and Trade regulation. He is a guest resource speaker in this program.

## Who Should Attend

Businessmen & Entrepreneurs  
Inventors and Authors  
Artists, Musicians, Song Writers  
IT Programmers  
Industrial Designers  
Business Advisors and Consultants  
Lawyers  
Anyone who wants to secure and protect their Patents, Copyrights and Trademarks

When : 8:30 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.  
April 7, 2006

Where : Peninsula Hotel  
Makati City, Philippines

BUSINESSWORLD

REGISTER NOW and avail of EARLY BIRD & GROUP DISCOUNTS  
LIMITED SLOTS ONLY. CALL (+63 2) 842-7148 or 59. EMAIL: bestpractices888@yahoo.com  
Seminar Investment is P 6,800 + Tax (Inclusive of Meals, Resource Kit, and Certificate)

## ATTENTION LAWYERS!



Pursuant to Bar Matter 850, non-compliance with the Mandatory Continuing Legal Education (MCLE) requirement shall be a cause for listing a lawyer as a delinquent member of the Integrated Bar of the Philippines (IBP) and consequently, he shall not be permitted to practice law.

Notices of non-compliance for the first compliance period of the MCLE are now being sent out by the MCLE committee.

The deadline for the second compliance period of the MCLE is fast approaching.

*Legis Forum, Inc.*, an accredited MCLE provider, shall conduct a full 36-unit MCLE course in MAKATI CITY on March 18, 25 and April 1 and 9, 2006.

Credits earned can be credited to either the first or second compliance period.

Avoid being listed as a delinquent member of the IBP and consequently, not permitted to practice law!

## REGISTER NOW!

Registration Form (Please Check ✓)

☐ Full 36-unit MCLE course  
☐ Half-day's MCLE seminar (a.m. sessions: 8:00-12:15; p.m. sessions: 1:00-4:15)

Date	Credit Units/Subject Per Bar Matter 850	Lecturer
<input type="checkbox"/> Mar. 18 a.m.	2/International Law	Prof. Harry H.L. Roque, Jr.
<input type="checkbox"/> Mar. 18 p.m.	2/Legal Writing and Oral Advocacy	Justice Magdangal M. De Leon
<input type="checkbox"/> Mar. 25 a.m.	3/Updates in Substantive and Procedural Laws and Jurisprudence: SRC and Corporate Governance	SEC Director Justine F. Cailangan
<input type="checkbox"/> Mar. 25 p.m.	2/Trial and Pre-Trial Skills	Justice Edilberto G. Sandoval
<input type="checkbox"/> Mar. 28 p.m.	2/MCLE Prescribed Subjects: Technology and the Law	Atty. Ivan John E. Uy
<input type="checkbox"/> Apr. 01 a.m.	2/Legal Ethics	Justice Jose L. Sabio Jr.
<input type="checkbox"/> Apr. 01 p.m.	2/Updates in Substantive and Procedural Laws and Jurisprudence: Constitutional Law	Prof. Harry H.L. Roque, Jr.
<input type="checkbox"/> Apr. 08 a.m.	3/Alternative Dispute Resolution	Dean Custodio O. Paraleo
<input type="checkbox"/> Apr. 08 p.m.	2/Trial and Pre-Trial Skills	Justice Froilan M. Bacungan
<input type="checkbox"/> Apr. 09 a.m.	2/MCLE Prescribed Subjects: New Rules and Jurisprudence in Family Law	Justice Lucas P. Beramin
<input type="checkbox"/> Apr. 09 p.m.	2/Legal Ethics	Atty. Melancho S. Bita Maria
<input type="checkbox"/> Apr. 09 a.m.	1/Update in Substantive and Procedural Laws and Jurisprudence: Notarial Law	Justice Hilario L. Aquino
<input type="checkbox"/> Apr. 09 p.m.	2/MCLE Prescribed Subjects: Forensic Evidence: DNA and its Analysis	Justice Hilario L. Aquino
<input type="checkbox"/> Apr. 09 a.m.	2/Legal Writing and Oral Advocacy	Dra. Raquel Dal Rosario-Farlan
<input type="checkbox"/> Apr. 09 p.m.	3/Updates in Substantive and Procedural Laws and Jurisprudence: Criminal Law	Justice Hector L. Hoflieña
		Justice Ruben T. Reyes
		Justice Diosdado M. Peralta

Name of Participant: \_\_\_\_\_ Roll No.: \_\_\_\_\_ IBP Chapter: \_\_\_\_\_  
Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
Tel. No.: \_\_\_\_\_ Fax No.: \_\_\_\_\_ Firm Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Cut and fax to: (632) 844-3935; 886-7868 or 887-3108

Our Venue, is conveniently located at the 24th Floor Export Bank Plaza, Senator Gil Puyat Avenue cor. Don Chino Rocas Avenue (formerly Pasong Tamo Avenue), Makati City

Attendees shall be provided with: meals (a.m./p.m. snacks & lunch), free-flowing coffee/tea, seminar (computer) bag, seminar kit, lecture materials, certificates of attendance.

For inquiries, please call: (632) 886-7868; 844-3871; 844-3818; 844-3888

Call or send SMS at: 0917-8574978 or 0917-8574988

Or you may log on to: www.legisforum.com & register online

Legis Forum, Inc. 8th Floor Chatham House, 116 Valero cor. Herrera Sts., Salcedo Village, Makati City



## Australia to give 30 river boats

AUSTRALIA WILL DONATE 30 RIVER boats to help the Philippine military pursue Bali bombing suspects who are alleged to have set up Islamic militant training camps in Mindanao, Defense Secretary Avelino Cruz said yesterday.

The fast flatboats would allow the insertion of troops to go after Jemaah Is-

lamiah (JI) militants in marshlands in southern Mindanao.

The boats would help Filipino troops "get to the terrorists who may have bunkers in these marshlands," Cruz told the Foreign Correspondents Association in Manila.

Canberra would procure the watercraft within three months under a bilat-

eral agreement it signed with Manila, he added.

The planned donation was announced amid fears among Western security agencies that JI militants blamed for the two bombings on the Indonesian resort of Bali that killed more than 200 people, many of them Australians, have fled to the moun-

tains of southern Philippines.

They alleged that the militants had been given shelter and training facilities by Muslim separatists waging a decades-old insurgency in the South.

"The Jemaah Islamiyah threat is not a serious one at this point," Cruz said.

However, "it has the potential to become a serious threat."

AFP



Issued by The Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation Limited

### When should you start securing your future?

Your future depends on what you do now. That's why now is the time to grow your money faster – with PowerVantage. With a minimum deposit of Php100,000\*, you can combine accounts, currencies and durations for better earnings, and avail of insurance products, standby credit and loans when you need them\*\*.

PowerVantage - more than savings, it's security for your future. For details, call (02) 878-9000 or visit [www.hsbc.com.ph](http://www.hsbc.com.ph).

\*Or Foreign Currency equivalent.

\*\*Insurance products are subject to the approval, policies and procedures of HSBC Insurance Brokers Inc. Loans and credit products are subject to the bank's approval, policies and procedures.

CELEBRATING  
**130**  
YEARS  
IN PHILIPPINES

Member of the Philippine Deposit Insurance Corporation.  
Maximum Deposit Insurance for Each Depositor P250,000.

**HSBC**   
The world's local bank

MISSED YOUR COPIES?  
CALL THE INQUIRER'S CUSTOMER  
SERVICE HOTLINE - 896-6000



## "Now I'm happy in Boracay with nothing on!"

Before, I'd have to wear make-up – I was afraid to let people see me without it. But with IPL, my skin imperfections have all quickly cleared away – no more enlarged pores or freckles. Now I can enjoy the sun and sea make-up free!

The effect on people is amazing! There was even a time when, right after my IPL treatment, I was talking and talking away to this guy and all he had to say was, "your skin...it's so beautiful..."

**40% OFF** when you start an IPL program from March 13-18, 2006

IPL will eliminate all types of skin flaws including brown age spots, enlarged pores, freckles, spider veins and hyper-pigmentation. This summer, prepare to become noticeably more beautiful. Call Facial Care NOW.

# facial care

CENTRE

Per DTI-NCR Permit #1477 Series of 2006

CALL 892-SKIN (7546)

Where Beautiful Skin Happens

[www.facialcarecentre.com.ph](http://www.facialcarecentre.com.ph)

MAKATI

ORTIGAS

TOMAS MORATO

BINONDO

ALABANG

SHAW

CONGRESSIONAL

PAMPANGA (961-3404)

CEBU (233-7631)



# Cops present hooded witness vs Batasan 5

From page A1

an affidavit in Filipino presented during the preliminary investigation of the accused at the Department of Justice.

Defense lawyers quickly branded Fuentas as "a professional witness" trained by police to fabricate stories against their enemies.

One of the accused lawmakers, Anakpawis Rep. Crispin Beltran, scored a partial victory elsewhere yesterday when a Quezon City court ordered his release on the grounds he was immune from lawsuits as a member of Congress.

Judge Evangeline Marigomen granted a motion for Beltran's release in a hearing of inciting to sedition charges against him.

Police said they could not yet release Beltran because he was still facing rebellion charges before a Makati City court.

## Identity must be secret

The other lawmakers charged with Beltran were Rafael Mariano and Crispin Beltran of Anakpawis, Satur Ocampo, Teddy Casiño and Joel Virador of Bayan Muna and Liza Maza of Gabriela.

None of them attended the DOJ hearing. They had insisted the preliminary investigation be held in the Lower House which had given them protective custody.

Fuentas gave no verbal account to prosecutors and reporters had to depend only on his affidavit. His appearance at the hearing was brief. Soon after he swore to his statement's veracity, he was taken away by his escorts.

Fuentas claimed to be the "chief security officer" of co-accused Vicente Ladlad of Bayan Muna.

When he testified, Fuentas had a brown shirt over his face and a summer hat plunked over his

head to hold the shirt in place. He refused to remove the hood.

His lawyer, Confesor Sansano, said his client's identity must be kept hidden for now for Fuentas' "personal security."

In his affidavit, Fuentas claimed to have been recruited by the Communist Party of the Philippines-New People's Army in Davao in 1982 and that he became a regular member in 1987.

## Man of many aliases

In the communist world, he said he went by the alias "Ka Ron, Ka Bogs and Ka James."

Fuentas said he later became close to Ladlad when the latter was the alleged head of the CPP's Southern Tagalog Regional Party Committee.

Fuentas said it was his ties with Ladlad that gave him the chance to mingle with the six congressmen in meetings held between January and February at various offices, such as the Bagong Alyansang Makabayan's national office, the Kilusang Magbubukid ng Pilipinas' national office and Bayan Muna's national office in Kamuning, Quezon City.

In his narration, he dragged in other names.

"I witnessed two secret meetings between Vic Ladlad in November 2005 with the group Black and White Movement. Among those I met in the meetings are Dinky Soliman and Vicky Velez," he said.

Soliman is Ms Arroyo's former social welfare secretary who quit the Cabinet and called on the President to also step down in the wake of allegations that she cheated in the 2004 presidential elections.

## Attacking Malacañang

"It was in those meetings that all agreed that there should be a



ANAKPAWIS Rep. Crispin Beltran is surrounded by police after a Quezon City judge ordered his release from PNP custody.

broad alliance under the CPP-NPA to topple the Arroyo government," Fuentas said.

He claimed that it was agreed upon that the party-list lawmakers' "countrywide development funds" would be used for the leftist cause.

He drew a colorful picture of what the Feb. 24 plot would have been like.

According to his claim, the "communist" leaders in Congress and leftist groups, as well as the rightist "Makabayang Kawal Pilipino" group would mass in Makati City, Lwasang Bonifacio and Don Chino Rocas (Mendiola) Bridge.

Then, if they drew the desired number of people, armed members of the CPP-NPA and the MKP

would "attack the Palace until they toppled the Arroyo government," he said.

## Military mole

Fuentas said he left the group after some of his colleagues suspected him of being a military mole and started to plan his liquidation.

Ladlad's counsel, Free Legal Assistance Group's Jose Manuel I. Diokno, described Fuentas as a "manufactured witness."

"The conspiracy he is claiming dates back to 20 years. There should come a time when the government should stop prosecuting people for the same crime time and again," Diokno said.

During the hearing, defense

lawyers led by Romeo Capulong sought police assurance of their clients' liberty while the rebellion cases were pending before the DOJ.

Lawyer Virgilio Pablico, who represented the PNP Criminal Investigation and Detection Group, said they were willing to honor the House leadership's custody of the lawmakers, for now.

## Separate battle

"I believe they are under protective custody. We need not effect their arrest since they are under custodial investigation," Pablico said.

Fighting a separate battle, Anakpawis Rep. Risa Montiveros-Baraquel yesterday slapped criminal and administrative charges

against the police for hauling her off in a police van during the rough dispersal of a protest rally marking International Women's Day last week.

Baraquel filed the charges in the Quezon City prosecutor's office, the Commission on Human Rights and Office of the Ombudsman.

The party-list lawmaker accused PNP Director General Arturo Lomibao, Metro Manila police chief Vidal Querol, Quezon City police chief Nicasio Radovan Jr. and other Quezon City policemen of arbitrary detention and violations of the illegal assembly act and parliamentary immunity.

Also named in the complaints were Superintendents Elmo San Diego and Renato Valebia, PO1 Eariweena Pascua, PO2 Julieta Torio and SPO4 Maura Laureano.

## Schedule changed

The five militant lawmakers under House custody said they missed attending their preliminary investigation despite a decision to transfer the proceedings from the DOJ to the House premises because they had not been properly informed of the change in schedule.

The hearing had been set for 2 p.m. at the House but at the last minute, the DOJ reset it for 10 a.m., by which time the Batasan 5 were attending a Mass.

The prosecutors later went ahead with the 2 p.m. hearing but this time held it at the DOJ.

Casillo said his office only received word of the change 25 minutes before the new time of the proceedings.

The next preliminary investigation has been set for March 26.

With reports from Luige A. del Puerto, DJ Yap and Norman Bordaora

# Warrantless arrest? Cops learn how from Miriam

From page A1

effectively arrest people.

"Where does the *in flagrante delicto* rule apply? If, for example, you are a policeman ... you are with a woman who is not your wife and your wife passes by [and sees you]—that is *in flagrante delicto*," said Santiago, who was a guest of honor at the flag-raising ceremony yesterday at the Philippine National Police headquarters in Camp Crame.

Question: What if this occurred in a hotel room with a gun lying around?

"Then your wife has the right to shoot you," Santiago said, as the crowd, mostly senior officers, burst into laughter.

The senator turned Camp Crame into a classroom, teaching cops how, when and where a warrantless arrest or a warrantless search could be applied. She also gave tips on how policemen could defend themselves from possible prosecution.

Santiago was clearly in a jolly mood, starting off her lecture by cracking jokes and firing barbs against people whom she described as pretending to be knowledgeable of the law, even when they had "not read a single law book."

"When does one apply warrantless arrest and warrantless search?" she lectured in Filipino.

"Because now, there are [people] pretending to be knowledgeable [of the law]. At least General (Arturo) Lomibao was once enrolled at a college of law ... But these people pretending to be knowledgeable of the law have not even once read a law book. They are too sure of themselves. That is the problem with our country," she said.

"So now, let us study how to arrest them," the senator said, drawing chuckles from the crowd.

## Conditions

According to Santiago, the Constitution considers warrantless arrest lawful under three conditions:

- When, in the presence of the police, the person to be arrested has committed, is actually committing, or is attempting to commit an offense, referred to as the *in flagrante delicto* rule.

- When an offense has just been committed, and the police have probable cause to believe that the person to be arrested has committed it, referred to as the "hot pursuit" arrest rule.

- When the person to be arrested is a prisoner who has escaped from a penal institution.

Under the doctrine of hot pursuit, a cop would not need to actually witness the execution or acts constituting the offense.

"But he must have direct knowledge, or a view of the crime, right after its commission," Santiago explained.

"So if an officer really wants to make an arrest, he should use a telescope," she said.

## And then some

According to Santiago, policemen can also make lawful arrests when:

- They had earlier conducted surveillance

of the suspect.

- They hear the disturbance created by the offense.

- There is probable cause of a communist threat.

- There is probable cause of a national security threat.

- The suspect is caught shoplifting and the shopkeeper detains him for a reasonable investigation.

- Direct contempt (is) committed in the presence of the court, upon the oral discretion of the presiding judge.

- The suspect is caught driving while intoxicated.

## Unlawful arrests

According to Santiago, unlawful warrantless arrests are made when they are based on:

- The verbal report of a witness.
- Raw intelligence information.
- Unreliable hearsay information.
- Unreasonable suspicion.

## No liability

Question: If a warrantless arrest was made and the court found the arrested persons innocent and acquitted them, would the arresting officers be liable?

"The answer is no," Santiago said.

The senator said that if an arrest turned out to be unlawful, the court was still capable of assuming jurisdiction over the accused. Any objection to the court's jurisdiction would be waived when the person arrested submitted to an arraignment without any objection.

"The strategy here is if you have doubts about the legality of your arrest, have it immediately arraigned before a judge," she said.

"In an arraignment, the arrested person makes a plea of guilty or not guilty. If he is arraigned and he pleads not guilty—that's the end of the story. The legality of the arrest can no longer be dug up," Santiago said.

For instance, the test of *in flagrante delicto*, according to the senator, is that the suspect is "acting under circumstances reasonably tending to show that he has committed or is about to commit a crime."

"Evidence of guilt is not necessary. It is enough if there is probable cause," she said.

"That is why if [the person being arrested] says, 'What you are doing is not right. You have no evidence.' You answer back, 'I have probable cause.' That is the key," Santiago said.

## Warrant for sedition

She stressed that under the doctrine of continuing crime, anyone could be arrested anywhere, anytime.

"You don't need to [catch him] in the act because his crime is a continuing crime," Santiago said, adding one of these crimes is rebellion. "But the Supreme Court said the [doctrine] of continuing crime cannot be applied to inciting sedition."

"So let us remember ... If the crime is only inciting to sedition, then you need a warrant of arrest," she said.

# Senga: I was in control during coup try

From page A1

ened, military officers had apparently "discovered that they are in a position to rule the country." The maverick administration senator said Ms Arroyo was lucky that the military top brass did not unite behind the rebels' plot.

"The administration and the opposition should wake up to the clear and present danger of the military uniting and writing funis to the civilian government," Arroyo said.

## In position to rule

"The military has become ascendant in the scheme of things. The lesson here is that while both the majority and minority quarreled, the uniformed services discovered that they are in a position to rule the country," the senator said.

"The military gradually positioned themselves to dictate already," he said in an interview with the INQUIRER.

"The elite forces of the uniformed services have supplanted the political opposition as the real opposition group to GMA. The political opposition has become irrelevant in the power equation, splintered, squabbling, with neither the power nor the high ground to unseat President Arroyo," he added.

Stepping up her verbal assault on her opponents, Ms Arroyo said yesterday her administration was "determined to clean out residual threats of destabilization with the heaviest arsenal of constitutional measures we can muster."

"One comprehensive, continuing sweep will deal with rightist coup plotters and left-wing insurgents and there will no longer be ifs and buts about it," Ms Arroyo said at the inauguration of the Kawal Kalang Housing Project in Palayan City, Nueva Ecija.

Citing threats from a "caval" of communist guerrillas, rebel soldiers, politicians and businessmen, Ms Arroyo clamped a state of national emergency on Feb. 24. She lifted the emergency after a week, saying the attempt to unseat her had been aborted.

Ms Arroyo has been hounded by allegations she stole the 2004 presidential election and demands that she step aside. The charges, which she has denied, stemmed from revelations in wiretapped conversations purportedly between her and former Election Commissioner Virgilio Garcillano.

## Sustained clampdown

Speaking for the second straight day on her efforts to bring about political stability, the 58-year-old President said her administration "must sustain the clampdown on underground conspiracies until these are completely mopped up and wiped out."

"The choice is either to keep this nation up and about in its business, or to allow it to wallow and fester under intensive care," the President said. "I have made the decision to take the

Philippines out of sick bay," she said.

In a statement supporting Senga's contention, Esperon denied that he was the only one who had opposed Lim's plan. "I must say that this is the farthest from the truth," Esperon told reporters in Camp Capinpin in Tanay, Rizal, on Sunday.

Esperon said that during the emergency meeting Senga called between the service commanders and Lim and Querubin on the night of Feb. 23, he, Mayuga and Reyes were behind Senga. "We were unequivocal and we did not vacillate in our position that any such unauthorized undertaking must be quelled," Esperon said.

"Later on, (Senga) called General Lim and Colonel Querubin before us and we ended the meeting with a warning from the chief of staff that if they insisted on doing what they would do, I understood from what I heard from the chief of staff that we will use force to stop that unauthorized activity," Esperon said.

## Transitional government

He recalled Reyes as telling Lim and Querubin after they proposed a takeover of the government that "we are not trained for that, that is not our constitutional duty."

Esperon also recalled Mayuga asking Lim and Querubin "if they had any compassion for young officers or soldiers who will be involved again and in the end will be left to their own."

But Esperon confirmed an INQUIRER report on March 11 that Lim and Querubin did propose a "civilian transitional government" during that meeting.

Senga had previously denied an INQUIRER report that he considered a proposal to lead a military "caretaker government" that would replace the Arroyo administration.

He said this was part of the intrigues hurled at the military leadership to weaken its resolve to stand by the chain of command.

## Senga directed measures

Lt. Gen. Romeo Tolentino, chief of the military's Northern Luzon Command, also brushed aside the INQUIRER report on Esperon's role, saying Senga had "total command and control" of the preemptive measures that doused the Feb. 24 crisis.

"That's wrong," Tolentino said of the report.

Maj. Gen. Jovito Palparan, in a separate interview, said he took orders from Tolentino who had territorial command over his 7th Infantry Division based in Fort Magsaysay, Nueva Ecija.

"I should know because I received orders directly from General Senga himself. He called me on Feb. 22 to secure the command and to alert the troops for possible actions," Tolentino told the INQUIRER by telephone from Fort Magsaysay.

On Feb. 23, Tolentino said that upon Senga's order, he directed Nolcom's forces under Palparan to surround

Camp Terson, the base of Lim's Scout Rangers Regiment in San Miguel, Bulacan.

## Air Force units alerted

By that time, Nolcom's Air Force units were also readied to project air power.

"The bombs were actually loaded," Tolentino said, to prevent the Rangers from leaving camp and joining antigovernment rallies scheduled for Edsa I's 20th anniversary celebrations. "We already knew of the plot by General Lim. Esperon need not tell us," he said.

Aside from Lim, another officer was detained. Two others, who were arrested, gave the details of the plot, he said.

Tolentino also confirmed that Maj. Gen. Pedro Cabuay, chief of the Southern Luzon Command, also moved his troops to stop the Scout Rangers from leaving Bicol.

Soldiers from the Solcom's 31st Infantry Battalion disguised themselves in civilian clothes for the operations on Feb. 23, it was learned.

Tolentino said he followed Senga not out of loyalty to the AFP chief of staff but out of a "larger loyalty to the organization, to the President and country."

Palparan answered no when asked if it was out of loyalty to Esperon that he faced up to the Rangers. "It is part of our job to defend democracy," he said.

According to Palparan, the credit should go to intelligence officers who "did their job" in confirming that "some officers" in his own division were "apparently convinced" to join Lim's men.

Palparan declined to give names but said six enlisted personnel were recruited. All of them, he said, were now detained and had been recommended for discharge.

## Habitual delinquents

Also yesterday, Defense Secretary Avelino Cruz, speaking before the Foreign Correspondents Association of the Philippines, said rogue soldiers faced tough sanctions to discourage coup plots and rehabilitate "habitual delinquents."

Participants in past coup attempts had been treated lightly, including pushups for troops who repeatedly challenged President Corazon Aquino during her 1986-92 term.

Cruz said he had introduced reforms to remove the military from politics and had tried to address the grievances of soldiers about housing, salaries, equipment and training.

"If they were really the leaders of a coup, they should all be lined up and shot," said security analyst Rex Robles who, as a Navy captain, was implicated in coup plots against Aquino.

"They committed treason and the punishment for that is the firing squad." With reports from Gil C. Cabacungan Jr. and Christine O. Avendaño in Manila; and Anselmo S. Roque, PDI Central Luzon Desk



## 'CAN' NOT 'MUST' Noli stands by comments but questions headline

By Cynthia D. Balana

VICE PRESIDENT NOLI DE CASTRO YESTERDAY stood by comments he had made to the INQUIRER about the importance of President Macapagal-Arroyo explaining the "Hello Garci" tapes but took exception to a word that this newspaper used in the headline of its banner story last Sunday.

De Castro was asked by the INQUIRER if he was disowning what he had been quoted as saying in Sunday's top story in light of radio interviews yesterday in which he complained about the headline.

"No, I did not deny (anything); it was just the headline," De Castro said. Sunday's banner headline said: "Noli: GMA must explain."

The INQUIRER should have used the word "can" and not "must" in the headline, De Castro said, adding he felt also that the headline should have emphasized that the President was quite capable of making such an explanation.

De Castro said the headline disturbed some Palace officials who felt that the President had already given her side on the issue. He said he brought the matter up with the President while they were en route to Fort Bonifacio yesterday morning.

"I told her that I had, indeed, made those

comments to you, but I also stressed that she could easily explain herself to the people," De Castro said. "I told her the headline was wrong."

Asked what Ms Arroyo's response was, De Castro replied, "Nothing, she just laughed."

He said he also explained to the President that the comments he had made to the INQUIRER were not unsolicited advice but were his response to a question on whether he believed Ms Arroyo should explain the "Hello Garci" tapes during a proposed dialogue with the military to stem restiveness among its members.

Sunday's story was the result of an earlier interview in which De Castro, apprised that the "Hello Garci" scandal was one of the issues causing restiveness in the military, said he believed it was time for the President to clear the air since she was not able to do this well at the height of the scandal since emotions were still running high.

Press Secretary Ignacio Bunye and Presidential Management Chief Mike Defensor, however, quickly shot down De Castro's statement, saying the matter should be put to rest. Bunye said that while the Palace respected De Castro's view, the issue had already gone through legislative inquiries and impeachment proceedings.

## Erap testimony set on March 22

By Nelson F. Flores

THE SANDIGANBAYAN YESTERDAY SET former President Joseph Estrada's testimony in his own plunder trial for March 22 after cutting short by a week a request by his lawyers to postpone the hearing further by 15 days.

Special Division Justice Diosdado Peralta said the requested postponement of Estrada's testimony until March 29 was "too long."

He was originally scheduled to testify in his own behalf on March 15, but former Sen. Rene Saguisag, one of Estrada's lawyers, informed the court that the defense could not be ready by that date because they had suffered "the loss of a week of preparation" as a result of the deposed leader's eye operation last month.

Another member of Estrada's defense team, former Manila Prosecutor Jose Flaminiano, sought a reconsideration of the court's order, saying the former President needed more time to study the five-year-old trial's transcripts.

Flaminiano promised there would be no more requests for postponements and that, to expedite the proceedings, he would personally conduct Estrada's direct testimony. But the court refused to postpone the hearing by more than seven days, even after Flaminiano suggested raising the matter to the Supreme Court.

Special Prosecutor Dennis Villa-Ignacio said he was not surprised by the postponement, charging that the defense had long been delaying the proceedings.

Villa-Ignacio added that the actions of Estrada's lawyers in court were contrary to the public pronouncements of the former President, who had claimed he was "raring to testify" so the people would know the truth.

## Group protests screening of 'Casanova'

By Leila B. Salaverria

AN ANTI-PORNOGRAPHY GROUP has criticized the R-13 rating given by the Movie and Television Review and Classification Board to the film "Casanova," saying minors should not be allowed to view the movie because of its sexual content and anti-Christianity scenes.

In fact, if Aldo Filomeno and the Philippine Alliance Against Pornography had their way, the film would not have been allowed to play in Philippine movie houses at all.

"That film should have been banned

in the first place," Filomeno told reporters at the Kapitan sa Maynila forum. He said the film insulted the Roman Catholic Church and was not fit to be seen by young people because of the supposedly wrong values it imparts.

"The film is an affront to Christianity and a total abuse against innocent children," he said.

"Casanova" features the story of the legendary lover known for his charms over women. It has been showing in theaters for a week.

Among the things Filomeno protested were a sex scene involving a nun, group sex, Casanova's se-

duction of different women, and a scene showing three men being tortured by a bishop and his assistant.

Filomeno said the MTRCB violated the law when it allowed minors to view Casanova. He said the law states the MTRCB should disapprove or delete portions that are immoral, indecent or would encourage violence or crime.

He said he was not worried that his group's objection to the film would attract more viewers.

"What we're talking about is the truth that it's not good for children," he said.

## Be in the First Class Class

At par with U.P., Ateneo and La Salle

Rolling Admission for January to February 2006

Start the year 2006 by resuming your education



Ph.D. MBA BSBA

Management  
Marketing  
Finance & Investment / Banking  
HRD

Management  
Political Economy

Management  
Political Economy

Log on: [www.iame.edu.ph](http://www.iame.edu.ph)

E-mail: [testing@iame.edu.ph](mailto:testing@iame.edu.ph)

Direct Line: 8962355/58

Other Lines 7572608 or 09 loc. 12

Text or Call: 0920-2142320

Or visit us at Ayala Avenue  
Extension (turn left off),

1061 Metropolitan Avenue  
Makati City 1200

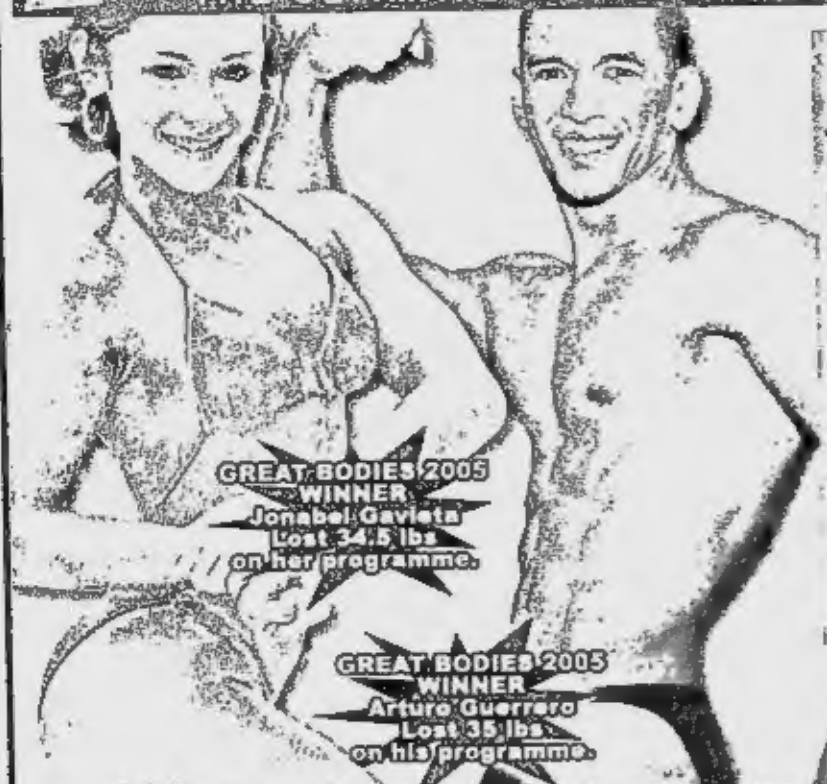
**IAME**

International Academy of  
Management and Economics



## SLIMMERS WORLD

THE ULTIMATE IN FITNESS, SKIN & BODY TREATMENTS



**GREAT BODIES 2005  
WINNER**  
Jonabel Gavieta  
Lost 34.5 lbs  
on her programme.

**GREAT BODIES 2005  
WINNER**  
Arturo Guerrero  
Lost 35 lbs  
on his programme.

**GREAT CASH SAVINGS!!!  
NO JOINING FEES!!!**

**ONLY  
P45  
PER DAY**

**CREDIT CARD OPTIONS AT 0%.  
MEDICAL SUPERVISION AT ALL CENTERS. FIRST 25 SLOTS.**

**A formula that fights  
the visible signs of  
FAT & CELLULITE.**

**BODY, SKIN & FACE by  
SLIMMERS WORLD**

**PERSONAL TRAINING  
POWER STRETCHING  
NUTRITIONAL ADVICE.**

**FREE**

**5 FREE  
PERSONAL TRAINING  
SLOTS\***



**DANCE  
AEROBICS\***



**BODY METRICS  
will BURN FAT.**

**LOSE 10 to  
50 inches  
or more  
from**

**here  
here  
here  
here**

**FACE, SKIN & BODY MONTH**



**DIAMOND ULTRAPEEL**  
For beautiful, smooth  
white skin.



**HOT MASQUE**  
Firming and inch loss.



**BODY FORMER**  
Lose 1,000 calories  
while you relax.



**PERMANENT LASER  
HAIR REMOVAL**  
The lowest price  
in the Philippines.



**SKIN WHITENING**  
The ultimate body  
whitening programme.



**GREAT CASH SAVINGS!!!  
BUY 15 TREATMENTS  
GET 5 FREE**

**MESOTHERAPY  
PASSIVE SLIMMING**

**Diamond Ultrapeel Hot Masque  
Skin Whitening Body Former  
Permanent Laser Hair Removal**

**\*SAVINGS APPLY TO FULL PROGRAMMES.**

**FITNESS & SKIN HOTLINE 8873533 MOBILE 091-SLIMMERS (754663770)**

**CALL US:**

[www.slimmersworld.com.ph](http://www.slimmersworld.com.ph)

[inquire@slimmersworld.com.ph](mailto:inquire@slimmersworld.com.ph)

**ALABANG**  
Gemma/Wendy  
2F RCBC Bldg.  
Zapote-Alabang Rd  
809-0396

**BINONDO**  
Thelma/Jannah  
3F Regina  
Garden II  
242-1312

**CALOCAN**  
Roda/Olive  
6F Panorama  
Bldg., Rizal Ave.  
365-7653

**CEBU**  
Tulsa/Chrysso  
Basement 1&2  
Ayala Center  
231-3254

**GREENHILLS**  
Eleanor/Judy  
27F Atlanta Ctr.  
831 Annopolis  
726-6505

**LEGASPI VILL.**  
Lani/Jonah  
GF Zeta Bldg.  
Salcedo St.  
893-8935

**MALATE**  
Dany/Mhaye  
6F Adriatic Square  
Adriatic, Manila  
536-0619

**MEGAMALL**  
Cherry/Mason  
2F Bldg. A  
Mandaluyong  
631-3869

**PASAY ROAD**  
Cherry/Mason  
1032 Amara Ave.  
cor. Hernandez St.  
091-78515920

**RM**  
Lorie/Oino  
Restaurant Ave.  
Martos Hi-way  
681-5333

**SM NORTH**  
Mitch  
2F Annex Bldg.  
Quezon City  
929-5429

**SUBIC**  
Beth/Procy  
2F Ymca Square  
Real Hi-way  
252-6514

**TRAFALGAR**  
Ana  
28F Trafalgar Plaza  
H.V. dela Costa  
814-0136

SKIN CENTER: ALABANG 77505870/9183912510 BINONDO 242072809178224399 CALOCAN 3657653 GREENHILLS 726152609194586195 MALATE 525891009213173415 MEGAMALL 6377543/09162479953 PASAY RD. 8873530/09156893008 PASI 647381409275341314



## Bunye leaves it to AFP to file case vs Inquirer

From page A1  
"hands-off" policy on the matter. The military might "have their reasons" for considering taking legal action against the INQUIRER, he said.

"[But] as far as we are concerned, what needs to be done is a strict implementation of whatever laws we have," he told reporters, citing the fact that the country had laws against libel and inciting to sedition.

Asked if he thought the INQUIRER was out of line when it ran the stories, Bunye said: "I wouldn't want to be the judge of that."

"I think that should be settled at a different forum, not here," President Macapagal-Arroyo's spokesperson added.

### Put up or shut up

At the House of Representatives, however, Surigao del Sur Rep. Prospero Pichay Jr. said the Armed Forces of the Philippines should "put up or shut up."

The administration lawmaker said in a phone interview that it was "conduct unbecoming" of the AFP to brag to "threaten civilians."

"It's without basis. Let me remind them that we're not yet under military rule and that they should stop threatening the media," said Pichay, vice chair of the House defense committee and a close ally of President Arroyo.

AFP spokesperson Col. Tristan Kison earlier warned that the INQUIRER could be charged with libel or sedition for publishing on March 11 and 12 "baseless articles" allegedly peddled by "unseen hands and puppet masters" to divide the military.

### Residual threats

"[But] even the President announced the existence of a coup which, however, was nipped in the bud. She even declared a state of emergency because of the threat of a coup," Pichay pointed out.

The lawmaker said Kison's denial that military adventurists had planned to replace Ms Arroyo with a caretaker government was contrary to the position taken by the Commander in Chief.

He noted that Ms Arroyo even admitted that she was still battling "residual" threats against her government.

Pichay then called on AFP Chief of Staff Gen. Generoso Senga to stop muddling the issue and instead train his guns on "enemy forces within the military who are out to oust" the Arroyo administration.

"Threatening the media won't stop residual forces who are out to carry out another adventurist scheme," he added.

### Provide legal backbone

For its part, the House committee on justice urged the military to fast-track its probe on the aborted coup plot so that it could file the necessary charges against all those considered to still be posing "residual threats against the duly constituted government."

Representatives Marcelino Libanan of Eastern Samar and Salacnib Bateria of Ilocos Sur, both lawyers and committee vice chairs, said that instead of trying to clip the freedom of the press enshrined in the Constitution, the AFP should simply do its job.

They reminded Senga and Kison that only the legal process could provide the solution to stopping the coup plotters and their financiers from launching another destabilization attempt against the government.

If the AFP fails to provide a legal backbone to Malacañang's claims—such as the absence of a formal case against coup plotters—rebel soldiers would continue to use their uniform and even their institution to blackmail government, said Libanan.

### Sanctions

"It's time we bring them to justice. The AFP must complete its probe and gather all evidence to back up the case that will be filed against the coup plotters. Otherwise, these rebel soldiers will be acting like spoiled brats who would throw tantrums if they don't get what they want. They violated laws and they must be punished accordingly," said Libanan.

Failing to give the military rebels the "sanctions they deserve, if evidence warrants this, will pose a bigger threat than the so-called residual threat," according to Bateria.

### Fearless views

Laban ng Masa chair Francisco Nemenzo also expressed support for the INQUIRER's exposés on the real stories behind the failed military mutiny last month, saying this was part of freedom of the press.

In a statement sent to the INQUIRER yesterday, Nemenzo, former president of the University of the Philippines, said the media and the INQUIRER "must not be cowed by libel or inciting to sedition threats from the Arroyo regime."

"Your readers deserve the truth and all angles in the story even if this angers the Arroyo government and the remaining corrupt officers in the AFP. The PDI should continue its responsibility of keeping the public informed and not buckle down to pressure from the Arroyo regime," he said.

Nemenzo also called on media to continue to assert press freedom. "We call on PDI and the media in general to continue asserting press freedom. You are not alone in your quest for the truth and defense of the people's right to be informed. You have the majority of freedom-loving Filipinos behind you," he said.

### NTC powers

Even so, broadcast regulators yesterday reiterated their belief that they could take over or close down radio and television stations that air "seditious" news stories, a few days after media groups went before the courts to question this power.

At the same time, however, National Telecommunications Commission chief Ronald O. Solis welcomed the move of various media groups to elevate the matter to the courts, saying this would once and for all resolve the question of the NTC's powers.

"We maintain that we have the power to take over or close stations," he said in an interview with reporters yesterday.

Apart from various media groups, Solis' position has also been criticized by several lawmakers like Senate President Franklin M. Drilon and Sen. Joker Arroyo who said that regulating the content of the airwaves was beyond the NTC's ambit.

Solis said the agency's power to regulate broadcast content was contained in the Public Service Act, which was enacted in 1936. "It is an antiquated law, but it is still in force," he said.

Solis pointed out that the broadcast regulator had not released any new guidelines apart from those issued in 1985 and 1989.

## Lawyers warn GMA on abuse of power

From page A1

arbitrary arrests, and whatever you have," Mendoza said. "But then again, these are questions of fact," he added.

### Immunity

Senate Majority Leader Francis Pangilinan, chair of the investigating subcommittee on justice and human rights, pointed out that Ms Arroyo enjoyed immunity from suit and could only be held culpable "perhaps after she steps down."

He said the testimonies of the lawyers and the former justice only highlighted "questions on the implementation of 1017."

The Senate opened its inquiry into PP 1017 on Thursday after 16 senators filed a resolution condemning the government's

raid on and attempt to control the media, the warrantless arrest of individuals, and other acts carried out under the state of emergency.

Ms Arroyo issued PP 1017 placing the country under a state of national emergency on Feb. 24 after the military uncovered a plot by key officers to join protest marches on Edsa and announce their withdrawal of support from her.

### Missing punch line

Mendoza also said PP 1017 appeared to be deficient in the sense that while it contained a declaration of a state of national emergency, it stopped short of giving any orders to the military.

"The punch line was missing," he said.

Dikno pointed out that

## Army builds special jail ...

From page A1  
kasama na sila dyan (They will be included there)."

### Transient quarters

Adjoining prison facilities are reportedly being planned, too.

Esperson quipped: "Don't think of them as detention cells. Think of them as secured transient quarters."

Army officials, who asked not to be named, said the military leadership planned to gather in one area the key officers implicated in the aborted Feb. 24 coup plot.

Authorities have linked former Scout Rangers commander Brig. Gen. Danilo Lim, Marine Col. Ariel Querubin and former police Special Action Force head Chief Supt. Marcelino Franco to the plot.

The new prison facility will not be ready until "several more weeks," according to one Army official.

### Another wind blows

But a different wind is blowing through the country's Catholic convents across the country.

In a move reprising their role during the martial law years, religious congregations have unani-

mously agreed to provide safe haven to all victims of repression under the Arroyo administration, a member of one congregation told the INQUIRER.

The decision is contained in the draft of a new set of guidelines to be released this week by the Association of Major Religious Superiors in the Philippines (AMRSP), an umbrella organization of more than 360 congregations.

The document spells out as a "course of action" the opening of the doors of convents and seminaries to anyone who would fall victim to warrantless arrest, detention, and even "invitation."

### Repressive laws

"Let us overcome fear," the group said in the draft, a copy of which was shown to the INQUIRER over the weekend.

The group drafts such documents only for important events, like elections, a nun said.

"It's even more compelling now because of the repressive laws of the Arroyo administration," she said. "They still remain even if Presidential Proclamation No. 1017 (on national emergency) has been lifted."

The AMRSP came up with the draft after a daylong closed-door

gathering at Xavier University last week.

Two of those present at the meeting, a priest and a nun, said the document was agreed upon in principle by the religious superiors present.

### Draft circulated

Although the guidelines have no binding effect on the congregations, they are generally observed, the two religious said.

They said the draft had been circulated among members for their perusal or if they wanted to add anything, but essentially the contents of the message would be kept intact.

The AMRSP membership includes the Jesuits, Benedictines, Dominicans, Franciscans, Augustinians and the Lasallian and Marist Brothers of the Philippines.

### 'Confusion ... anger'

In the draft guidelines, the group expressed alarm over "repressive" measures, such as the government's calibrated preemptive response policy on protest rallies, Executive Order No. 464 barring government officials from appearing in congressional inquiries without Ms Arroyo's clearance, and Proclamation No. 1017.

These measures only caused "confusion, division, anxiety, anger, fear and unrest among the people who are zealous in protecting their civil liberties enshrined in the Bill of Rights," the draft said.

"We cannot watch with indifference the unfolding of these events reminiscent of the martial law days because of the chilling effect in the society," it added.

Legal luminary and Jesuit priest Joaquin Bernas discussed the constitutionality of PP 1017 during the meeting. Another speaker, university professor Randy David, recalled his experience when he was arrested without a warrant for joining a protest action on Edsa on Feb. 24.

"We find ourselves sharing the confusion of our people in an atmosphere of fear and helplessness brought about by the conflicting pronouncements of the government regarding the real situation of the country," the draft said.

One prevailing sentiment during the deliberation was for the AMRSP to make Ms Arroyo and her "minions" accountable to the courts for Proclamation No. 1017, according to the INQUIRER sources.

## Price tag: P200M, P30M, P3M, ...

From page A1

campaign manager Lito Banayo, and a staff member of an ABS-CBN television program.

The officials reportedly rejected the offer because they found the price too high. They noted that the purported peddler of the "Hello Garci" tape, TSgt. Vidal Doble, got only P2 million reportedly from the camp of former President Joseph Estrada.

### 20 policemen

The "Hello Garci" tape contained the wiretapped conversations between President Macapagal-Arroyo and former Election Commissioner Virgilio Garcilano that the opposition claims showed that Ms Arroyo rigged the presidential election. Ms Arroyo has denied that she

stole the election.

Quoting one of the peddlers, an opposition leader said the P200 million would be divided equally among some 20 House policemen and civilian security officers holding the footage.

"You are not only paying for the CD," an opposition leader quoted his contact. "You are also ensuring the future of these officers."

Realizing that there were no takers, the CD peddlers, according to the opposition leaders, reduced the price to P30 million.

Some of the members of the opposition were said to be willing to raise P30 million for the CD on the condition that the security officers would issue separate affidavits and would all appear at a news conference detailing how they ob-

tained the CD.

The money was supposed to be turned over to the security officers before they boarded a plane bound for abroad.

For still unknown reasons, the negotiation collapsed.

### Last card

Before the alleged coup attempt scheduled on Feb. 24, the price went down to P3 million. After the standoff at Marine headquarters two Sundays ago, it was raised anew to P30 million, with some opposition leaders describing it as the opposition's "last card" in their quest to find some answers to the election fraud scandal.

In contrast, the price of another CD that detailed how election returns were reportedly fabricated at a printing press in

Cainta, Rizal, was fixed at P3 million.

The CD also showed scenes, which were first reported by Newsbreak magazine, on irregularities in the 2004 elections, and named lawyer Roque Bello as among those behind the tampering of election returns.

A resident of Cainta, Bello reportedly owned the printing press. The INQUIRER yesterday tried to contact Bello, a former election official of the town, but his cell number was not working.

The CD contained photos that should have accompanied the Newsbreak story. Yesterday, the Malaya newspaper published the photos.

One of the photos showed an old car with license plate No. PXD-330 allegedly used to deliver election returns.

## House probe of CD on 'break-in' urged

From page A1

plaint that accused her of poll fraud and other illegal acts.

The opposition claims that Ms Arroyo rigged the election as indicated by her wiretapped conversations with former Election Commissioner Virgilio Garcilano while the votes were being canvassed. The President has denied rigging the polls.

Bunye said the news about the alleged break-in was another attempt at "dirty tricks and psychological manipulation."

The break-in was reportedly recorded by one of the security officers using a small digital video camera.

Six House employees stole election returns from 38 provinces and replaced them with fake and tampered ones, said the INQUIRER report, quoting the security officers, some of whom were active members of an elite police group.

The break-in purportedly took

place in January and February 2005 while a group of heavily armed policemen stood guard outside the Batasan complex on orders, the officers said, of a retired police general.

The theft took place five more times before the ballot boxes were turned over by the House of Representatives to the Presidential Electoral Tribunal in 2005, according to the officers.

Another CD shown to the INQUIRER last week by another set of policemen detailed how election returns were allegedly fabricated in a printing press in Cainta.

### Opposition witnesses

San Juan Rep. Ronaldo Zamora said the CD viewed by the INQUIRER confirmed the allegations of ballot-box switching at the House of Representatives that he raised during the impeachment hearing.

"It shows that we were not coming up with stories out of thin air," Zamora said.

Zamora, however, would not elaborate on the CD because he had yet to see it.

"For one, the video shown to me was not in a disc. I can't say if they are the same," he said.

He said he had witnesses who knew about the ballot switching.

One of them, who might have testified had the impeachment proceedings pushed through, had shown him a video of the ballot-box switching, Zamora said.

### De Venecia orders probe

Speaker Jose de Venecia has ordered House Secretary General Roberto Nazareno and Deputy Secretary General Artemio Adaza to conduct an investigation of the alleged break-in.

"If indeed it was true, why are they bringing it up only now? Even so, I have ordered ... an investigation," the Speaker said on radio dzBB.

Before he could conduct an investigation, Nazareno virtually cleared members of the House security force and the Special Action Force of the Philippine National Police.

"It's difficult for an inside job and connivance to happen," he told reporters at the House media center.

Asked why this was so, Nazareno said: "Because we trust our security people. Every night they would inspect the ballot boxes even in the presence of the members of the Special Action Force guarding the boxes."

He said all the ballot boxes stored in the South Wing of the House had all been accounted for.

### Video tapes erased

In a statement, Nazareno said the storage room was on a 24-hour security watch backed up by a closed-circuit monitoring system.

The House security, however, said last year that the video tapes were only good for two weeks be-

cause these were used over and over again due to a lack of tapes.

Majority Leader Prospero Nograles confirmed the existence of a video tape purportedly showing the break-in and theft of election returns at the House, but he insisted that the recording could have been "fabricated."

"Break-in? I doubt it. The House is heavily guarded and has video cameras," he said.

Nograles recalled that opposition lawmakers had questioned the security of the election returns (ERs) late last year, but "they did not push through for lack of any evidence that the ERs kept at the House were switched or tampered with."

### Best proof

Rep. Mauricio Domogan (Lakas, Baguio City), vice chair of the House committee on constitutional amendments, said the revival of the break-in issue was suspect because it came on the heels of an aborted coup d'etat.

But Domogan said the video tape, if genuine, would have been the "best proof against the President during the impeachment."

Police appeared to be distancing themselves from the alleged break-in and switching of ballot boxes at the Batasan complex.

The House sergeant-at-arms, Bayani Fabic, will investigate the reports, according to Senior Supt. Samuel Pagdila Jr.

The police will only come into the picture "if requested" by House officials, he said.

PNP Director General Arturo Lomibao has directed Chief Supt. Nicasio Radovan Jr., head of the Quezon City police, to coordinate with Fabic in case police help was needed.

Pagdila said the PNP would wait for Radovan's report. With reports from Gil C. Cabacungan Jr. and Lidge A. del Puerto



**NORTHERN LUZON BUREAU**  
Room 201, Bonuan Apartelle  
10 Happy Glen Loop, Baguio City  
Tel. No. (074) 443-9255  
Fax No. (074) 443-6971  
E-mail: [lnq\\_baguio@inquirer.com.ph](mailto:lnq_baguio@inquirer.com.ph)

**SOUTHERN LUZON BUREAU**  
2nd Floor, Los Baños Bldg.  
Cor. Peñaranda and Aguinaldo Sts.  
Laguna City  
Tel. No. (052) 480-4182  
E-mail: [lnq\\_blaol@inquirer.com.ph](mailto:lnq_blaol@inquirer.com.ph)

E-mail: [pr\\_provincial\\_news@inquirer.com.ph](mailto:pr_provincial_news@inquirer.com.ph)  
**Across the NATION**

**VISAYAS BUREAU**  
c/o Cebu Daily News  
18-15 Escario St., Cebu City  
Tel. Nos. (032) 233-0346/233-0349  
Fax No. (032) 232-9938  
E-mail: [lnq\\_cebu@inquirer.com.ph](mailto:lnq_cebu@inquirer.com.ph)

**MINDANAO BUREAU**  
FEP Printing Corp. Bldg.  
Me-a Road, Davao City  
Tel. No. (082) 244-1770 to 71  
Fax No. (082) 244-1771  
E-mail: [lnq\\_davao@inquirer.com.ph](mailto:lnq_davao@inquirer.com.ph)

Text us your feedback: Inquirer atn name/age/city/message to 2207 (Globe) or 263 (Smart) Assistant Editor Tony Bergonia

# Bulacan folk seek stop to quarrying

By Carmela Reyes, PDI Central Luzon Desk  
and Blanche Rivera, in Manila

**CITY OF MALOLOS—BULAKEÑOS HAVE** launched a signature campaign to ask President Macapagal-Arroyo to stop quarrying and mining operations at the Biak-na-Bato National Park and tourist areas in the mountains of Doña Remedios Trinidad and San Miguel towns, 45 km east of this city.

A multisectoral group led by the Dangal ng Bulacan Foundation Inc. said the move was meant to stop the destruction of the park and to prevent landslides similar to what happened in Southern Leyte last month that buried thousands of residents and schoolchildren there.

Remedios Macalincag, the group's president, said more than 100 leaders of religious, education, business, youth, tourism, science and technology sectors had already joined the drive to save the Biak-na-Bato Park.

Last month, Ricardo Medina Jr., provincial environment and natural resources officer, asked a court here to issue a temporary restraining order against a private company quarrying at the Biak-na-Bato reservation.

The Biak-na-Bato was declared a national park on Nov. 16, 1937 by Proclamation No. 223. It has an area of 2,117 hectares of land, mostly covering villages in Doña Remedios Trinidad and San Miguel.

Through Proclamation No. 401 issued on April 11, 1989, the national government redefined the boundaries of the park and set aside portions of it as mineral and watershed reservations.

On Feb. 6, 1998, Republic Act No. 8546 was enacted declaring the Biak-na-Bato Park a historical shrine and major tourist destination.

Victoriano Villela, president of

a people's organizations' federation called Bundok, said quarrying and mining operations of private firms at the Biak-na-Bato reservation site were endangering the lives of local residents.

The site, a refuge for the Katipuneros during the Filipino-Spanish war in the 19th century, has become a battleground between environmentalists and a quarrying firm.

Environmentalists and local officials have asked the Department of Environment and Natural Resources to stop the operations of Rosemoor Mining and Development Corp. (RMDC) inside the park.

In a letter to Environment Secretary Angelo Reyes, the environmentalist groups expressed concern over the "illegal and environmentally hazardous exploitation" of the park.

Bangon Kalikasan said RMDC had been engaged in quarrying for more than a year even without a permit.

RMDC extracts marble from a 330-ha area within the mineral reservation by virtue of a controversial Mineral Production Sharing Agreement it obtained from the DENR under then Secretary Heherson Alvarez.

The company used to operate under quarry license No. 33 which it obtained from the Marcos regime in 1982. The license was cancelled with finality by the Supreme Court in November 2004.



**LAUNDROMAT**

Women find a space for their laundry in a room that is supplied with water from a spring they call Old Faithful in Barangay Aplaya in Bauan, Batangas City.

RAFFY LERMA/PDI PHOTO

## Sulu land dispute leads to mortar shelling

**ZAMBOANGA CITY—AN OLD DIS-**pute involving a piece of property in Barangay Sablay in Siasi, Sulu ended up in an exchange of mortar fire for almost eight hours yesterday.

Col. Juancho Sabban, commander of the Third Marine Brigade in Sulu,

said the indiscriminate firing of mortar shells in Barangay Sablay started at 5 a.m. and ended at 1 p.m.

Sabban said the shelling stopped only when soldiers from the Marine Battalion Landing Team 7 proceeded to the area and

intervened.

"But we have warned the two families that whoever starts first, either by shelling or shooting, we will directly confront them," Sabban said.

He identified the two families involved as that of Baharon Samala-

hud's and a certain SPO3 Talib.

Sabban admitted that they could not get details of possible casualties because "our troops are concentrating on guarding the two warring groups." Julie Alipala, PDI Mindanao Bureau

If you  
have big dreams  
start  
here.

# MAPÚA

Engineering & Science • Architecture & Design •  
Social Sciences • Information Technology •  
Health Sciences • Business & Management

## CONGRATULATIONS

to the following topnotchers  
in the February 2006

**Sanitary Engineering  
Licensure Examination**

FLOBEN DALE C. MORO .....	1 <sup>ST</sup> PLACE
LEA JOY S. BACUDO .....	6 <sup>TH</sup> PLACE
JOSEPHINE A. ROXAS .....	7 <sup>TH</sup> PLACE
SEVERINO B. REYES III .....	9 <sup>TH</sup> PLACE
DON DEXTER R. ALHAMBRA .....	10 <sup>TH</sup> PLACE
HERCIE JEAN M. GOLFO .....	10 <sup>TH</sup> PLACE
LOUIE M. MAGALONG .....	10 <sup>TH</sup> PLACE

Scholarship and  
Financial Assistance Programs  
Offered



<http://www.mapua.edu.ph>

For inquiries, you may visit the Mapúa website,  
or get in touch with the following offices:

**ADMISSIONS OFFICE**  
Email: [admissions@mapua.edu.ph](mailto:admissions@mapua.edu.ph)  
Tel: (02) 247 - 5000 local 5101  
(02) 524 - 5570

**CENTER FOR SCHOLARSHIPS  
AND FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE**  
Tel: (02) 247 - 5000 local 1202  
(02) 301 - 0102

**Application  
On-going**



Across the **NATION****SURVIVORS**

Children who were forced to flee their homes following a landslide in Guinsaungon Village in St. Bernard, Southern Leyte sleep inside the United Church of Christ in the Philippines Church that was turned into a makeshift evacuation center. The children and their families were from Barangay Hinablan.



LYN RILLON/PDI PHOTO

# Relief goods being sold in Guinsaungon

By **Joey A. Gabieta**  
PDI Visayas Bureau

ST. BERNARD, SOUTHERN LEYTE—SOME evacuees of this landslide-hit town have reportedly sold some of the canned goods given to them because they were either too tired of eating these or they needed money.

Ma. Victoria Labastida, chief of the Municipal Disaster Coordinating Council, and Tita Llorca, in-charge of relief distribution, heard talk about some evacuees selling food items intended for them.

"As to how many of these evacuees are doing this selling of relief supplies, I cannot tell. We don't have any personal encounter with any one of them, but we have heard it," she said.

Labastida, whose office oversees the distribution of relief supplies, said the local government unit should institute measures to stop this practice.

"For one, we have asked all nongovernment organizations that are giving relief supplies to the victims to coordinate with our office first before they conduct their distribution. This way, we can monitor the items given to the evacuees and, at the same time, give what they just need within three days," she said.

Llorca said she, too, heard about the talk but added that she understood why some of the evacuees, numbering over 3,000, were doing this.

"Of course, what they are doing is not good. It is a bad display of their behavior. These food supplies are for them. But I guess we cannot really totally blame them. Perhaps, they want to eat other than those given to them," she said.

"They don't have work. They want some cash to buy some of their needs not provided by us," she added.

Llorca said the practice had been going on for days. Some sell the food items distributed to them or exchange these with fish or vegetables, she said.

An evacuee, who asked to be identified only as Nina, said some sold or bartered part of their food rations to retail store owners near the evacuation centers, or to fishermen.

Some evacuees refused to comment when reached by the INQUIRER.

A store owner near the St. Bernard Central School denied buying any food items from the evacuees.

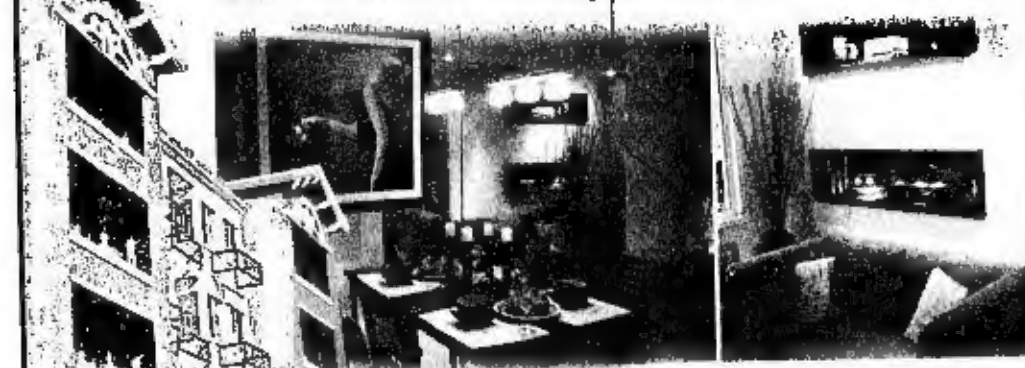
The report was denied by Araceli Gorne, a volunteer who helped handle the information desk at the Christo Rey Regional High School, one of the evacuation centers.

"We have introduced a gate pass policy here. Every time they (evacuees) leave the premises, they are being inspected. That is why we can say that the alleged selling of relief supplies is not happening here," Gorne said.

Many of the evacuees have been staying in schools since Feb. 17 when a massive landslide buried Guinsaungon.

## GRAND OPEN HOUSE!!! March 19, 2006

The Fastest Selling,  
Best Value-For-Money Condo in the Country!



30 SQM Semi-Finished Units for as low as **P640,800**

Picture shown are of furnished model unit. Actual turnover units are bare and semi-finished.

**SPAZIO BERNARDO**  
The Art of Quality Living

Champaca Street, Mindanao Avenue, Quezon City  
Just 8 Minutes from the MRT SM North Terminal.  
From Makati take EDSA upon reaching SM City North turn right then left to Mindanao Ave. pass Congressional-Tandang Sora Ave. turn right at Champaca St. (across HBC SPLASH)

**PHINMA**  
PROPERTY HOLDINGS CORP.  
City Living Made Easy

812-PPHC (7742)  
0917-812-PPHC (7742)  
0922-812-PPHC (7742)  
www.spaziobernardo.com

Call our Lead Marketing Agents:  
Boomland Realty: 939-7338  
Granwood Realty: 929-8584

**NU/HART**  
HAIR CLINICS  
There's A New You Waiting at Nu/Hart



10% off  
valid on new business  
March 31, 2006

Call or visit us now for a FREE PRIVATE CONSULTATION.

**638-6000**

NU/HART MANILA

26/F Wyndham Plaza, 22 F. Ortigas Jr. Road (formerly Emerald Ave) Ortigas (Behind Discovery Suites)

In the U.S. Call 1-800-776-7775

Consultations Available in Bacolod, Cebu, Davao, and Iloilo

Visit our website at [www.nuhart.com](http://www.nuhart.com) or e-mail us at [info@nuhart.com](mailto:info@nuhart.com)

MANILA • HONG KONG • NEW YORK • CHICAGO • ATLANTA • PITTSBURGH • PHILADELPHIA • PUERTO RICO • DUBAI

"I'm proud to say  
this hairline was  
made by Nu/Hart."

I don't think it's embarrassing that I had hair transplants. What is embarrassing is having old friends comment on your thinning hair, having to wear cumbersome hairpieces, or using a special shampoo and comb that don't really solve the problem.

Nu/Hart offers a great solution. It's permanent, it's natural, and you know you're in good hands because they have the capability and the expertise. This option is available here now, so why not try it? It's you yourself who would benefit.

I felt assured by Nu/Hart's reputation, the intensive training of their doctors, and the experience of their previous clients. After the procedure I went back to Cebu and even went to the beach.

If you're losing your hair and are not comfortable with it, I would definitely recommend Nu/Hart.

# The All-New Suzuki APV DEALS for REAL!



Only  
**P 99,000 DP**  
Plus more great value packages.

### APV GLX PACKAGES

Choose your terms

#### 1. Cash Payment

- ☐ Free SHELL gas card worth P10,000.
- ☐ Free one-year comprehensive insurance coverage.

#### 2. Low Interest Terms

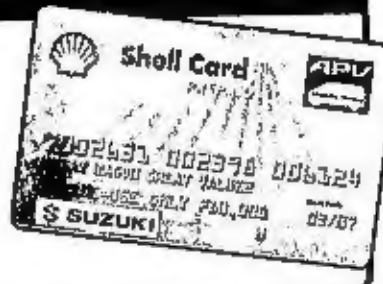
- ☐ Free SHELL gas card worth P10,000.
- ☐ Low Interest rate

#### 3. Low Down Payment Terms

- ☐ Down payment of only P99,000
- ☐ Plus affordable monthly installments

### APV GL PACKAGE

Get a Free SHELL  
gas card worth P5,000  
for every purchase of  
APV GL MT.



Gas cards are valid for one (1) year from date issued.

Come see us!

SRP	* Down Payment	12	18	24	36	48	60	72
765,000	99,000	56,193	38,506	29,861	21,251	17,024	14,834	13,481

\* Only applicable for GLX AT.



Pronto period is from March 2 to March 31, 2006. Per DTI-NCR Permit No. 0236 Series of 2006

**New Family Wagon**

**APV**

#### METRO MANILA

SUZUKI AUTO COMMONWEALTH  
43 Commonwealth Avenue,  
Quezon City  
934-2201 to 10  
SUZUKI AUTO EDSA  
EDSA cor. Madison St  
Mandaluyong City  
634-3451 to 57

SUZUKI AUTO MAKATI  
G/F Smith Bldg., 2204  
Don Chino Rocas Ave. Ext.,  
Makati City  
810-4007 / 810-1730 / 810-1737  
SUZUKI AUTO QUEZON AVE.  
1142 Quezon Avenue,  
Quezon City  
374-39-11 / 411-27-20

SUZUKI AUTO SHAW  
411 Shaw Boulevard,  
Mandaluyong City  
718-1834 to 35

#### PROVINCIAL

SUZUKI AUTO BACLOD  
Manor Bldg., Amante St.,  
Singang Bacolod City  
(034) 435-0208  
SUZUKI AUTO CAGAYAN  
Maharlika Highway,  
Cagayan City  
(084) 403-6245 / 453-0089

SUZUKI AUTO CAGAYAN DE ORO  
Mindanao Motor Compound  
Cornales Ave., Cagayan de Oro City  
(088) 227-26357  
SUZUKI AUTO CEBU  
CDO Foodsquare Bldg.,  
A. S. Felton St., Bantad,  
Mandana City  
(032) 345-8883 / (032) 345-0507

SUZUKI AUTO DABUAN  
National Highway, Ambacao,  
Cotabato, Pangasinan  
(076) 517-17-17 / 8888 / 9999  
SUZUKI AUTO DAVAO  
Bo. Pimpango, Sana,  
Davao City  
(082) 233-1146 / 234-0399

SUZUKI AUTO ILOILO  
Tabuk, Sulu, Iloilo City  
(033) 320-0043  
SUZUKI AUTO LEGASPI  
408 Rizal St., Casingan,  
Legaspi City  
(054) 472-1776 / 472-1079

SUZUKI AUTO PAMPANGA  
Changape-Gapan Road  
City of San Fernando, Pampanga  
(045) 850-6971 / (045) 861-3573  
SUZUKI AUTO ZAMBOANGA  
Veterans Ave. cor. Tomas Claudio St.,  
Zamboanga City  
(092) 491-1434 / 491-1720

**SUZUKI**  
Way of Life!

[www.suzuki.com.ph](http://www.suzuki.com.ph)



## Harassment of woman costs 2 men their hair

CITY OF MALOLOS

Two men allowed their long hair to be sheared on March 8, International Women's Day, as penance for harassing a 19-year-old woman here.

Mark Alvarez, 24, and Charles Chang, 22, both from this city, decided that shearing their hair, which they kept long for five years, was a more acceptable punishment than a sexual harassment suit being prepared by the woman's family and fiancé.

The two men apologized to the woman for bombarding her cellular phone with unwelcome romantic advances, during a settlement meeting with her and her boyfriend and their relatives on Tuesday afternoon.

The woman said the two men, who are mountaineering enthusiasts, had been alternately calling or texting her since March 1 to cajole her into having a date with them.

The woman said she tried to discourage the two men, but they continued harassing her.

Her boyfriend, a radio reporter here, discovered the text messages and had politely confronted the two. He asked them by telephone to desist from courting his girlfriend because they already had wedding plans.

But he said he was shocked when the two fired back with harsh words, and dared him to a fist fight. He said he recorded the conversation as part of their evidence against the two men.

Alvarez and Chang offered to settle their differences.

But the woman's boyfriend wanted their hair. *Carmela Reyes, PDI Central Luzon Desk*

NAGSISI NA KAMI!



## Unknown disease stalks Sorsogon jail

SORSOGON CITY—A mysterious disease continues to hound prisoners of the provincial jail here and has caused the death of at least eight prisoners since October last year.

Three of the prisoners died within a week.

The deaths prompted Gov. Raul Lee to send a medical team from the provincial health office to investigate.

Jose Lopez, jail records officer, said the three inmates who died in just a span of six days exhibited common

Solano, Feb. 8.

Provincial health officer Dr. Edgar Garcia said he could not yet identify the disease that caused the deaths. But he said the latest victim was found to have died of a heart attack.

Garcia, however, explained that heart attack could just be the secondary cause and another disease, the primary cause, could have triggered the heart attack.

Garcia said his office would conduct a background study on the victims to

check their health history, as well as health conditions inside the jail, including the inmates' meals.

The health official said malnutrition could be one reason, citing the symptoms exhibited by the victims.

The inmates have reportedly complained about the food being given to them by a caterer, said to be managed by acting warden, Isidro Pura.

It was learned that the prisoners were usually given a cup of rice, dried fish and meat broth for lunch and din-

ner, and just a cup of coffee and two pieces of bread for breakfast.

Pura said he was also puzzled by the deaths.

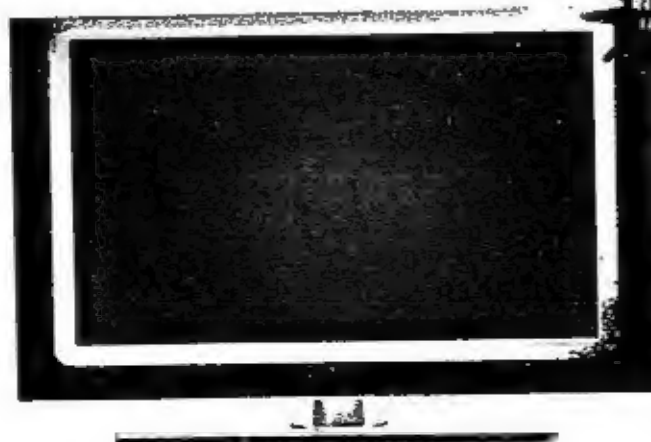
Governor Lee has ordered an investigation of jail conditions, including the series of jail breaks that resulted in the escape of at least 15 prisoners.

He said he would designate an acting warden pending results of the probe. *Bobby Labalan, PDI Southern Luzon Bureau*

BEST BUY

### Philips Flat TV with Ambilight

Enjoy the ultimate viewing experience as Ambilight and Pixel Plus 2 elevate picture quality to a new level. Unprecedented viewing comfort, the latest Plasma Display Technology, and a stunning design to enhance your interior.



BEFORE: P349,980.00  
NOW: P329,980.00

FREE

HTS3300



BEFORE: P299,980.00  
NOW: P299,980.00

FREE

HTS3300



BEFORE: P28,990.00  
NOW: P28,990.00

FREE

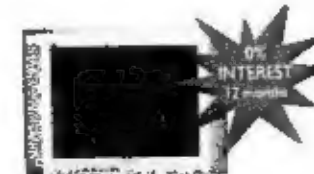
HTS5510C



BEFORE: P10,990.00  
NOW: P8,990.00

FREE

PW-D17



BEFORE: P25,980.00  
NOW: P25,980.00

FREE

29PT3223



BEFORE: P5,990.00  
NOW: P5,690.00

FREE

DVD-P3



BEFORE: P17,888.00  
NOW: P17,888.00

FREE

23PT3323



BEFORE: P5,190.00  
NOW: P4,790.00

FREE

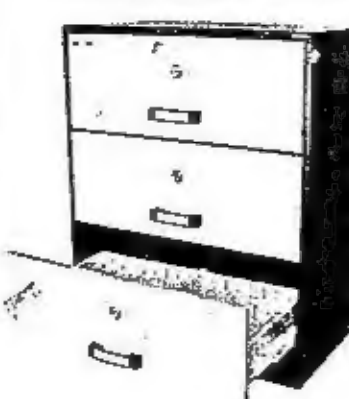
AZS130

PROtech

FIRE RESISTING  
FILING CABINETS

STANDARD MODEL

LATERAL MODEL



- Provides protection against fire and convenience in filing of records
- Ideal for safekeeping of files, engineering and architectural drawings
- Designed to give many years of service

DON'T CHANCE IT. PROTECH IT.

PROTECTION TECHNOLOGY, INC.

Physical Security Equipment

www.protech.com.ph

HEAD OFFICE:  
2643-41 Telf Ave., Pasay City, MM  
Tel. Nos.: 833-3622 • 833-1246  
831-0648 • 551-4809 • 551-7889  
Fax No.: (632) 831-2661  
E-mail: protech@ptonline.com

CEBU OFFICE:  
Escario St. cor. Don Mariano  
Cua St., Capitol Site, Cebu City  
Tel. No.: (032) 255-6384  
Telefax: (032) 254-8301  
E-mail: protech@mozcom.com

DAVAO OFFICE:  
Unit-B Alty, Farlo Compound  
Padre Gomez St., Davao City  
Tel. No.: (082) 221-5021  
E-mail: protech@mozcom.com

BANCO DE ORO

Lighten up  
burdensome debts.

# SUPERlite

## Personal Loan

Still at

# 0.99%\*

- FREE Family Accident Insurance up to P300,000 from GENERALI PILIPINAS
- Earn BDO Rewards Points

Over P2 million in cash & prizes!  
2 draws! Lots of winners!

**SUPER LOANS,  
SUPER PRIZES!**

Book a SuperLite Personal Loan now and  
get a chance to be one of the 60 lucky winners!

From Jan 1, 2006 to Dec 31, 2006. For DTI-NCR Permit No. 0488 Series of 2006.

Call 631-8000

or 1-800-10-6318000 (Domestic Toll Free)  
or visit any of our BDO or BDO On-site branches.

BDO

Personal Loan

www.bancodeoro.com.ph

Initially available in Metro Manila, Rizal, Cavite, Laguna, Bulacan, Batangas, San Fernando (Pampanga),  
Dagupan, Baguio, Cebu, Iloilo City, Bacolod City, Cagayan de Oro and Davao City.  
\*Terms and conditions apply. Promo period is from March 1 to July 31, 2006.  
See fliers for details. Per DTI-NCR Permit No. 1221 Series of 2006.



ISSN  
0116-2642

INQUIRER

Vol. 21 No. 96

## OPINION

Text us your feedback: [inquirer.opi@ncc.gov.ph](mailto:inquirer.opi@ncc.gov.ph) or 2207 (Globe) or 283 (Smart)

The Philippine Daily Inquirer, Inc. has its business and editorial offices at:  
 • Chino Rocas Ave. corner Yagor and Mascardo Sts., Makati City  
 • P.O. Box 2353 Makati Central Post Office 1263 Makati City  
 • Our telephone numbers are 897-8888 connecting all departments  
 • Editorial Fax 897-4793 / 897-4794 • Advertising 897-4807  
 • Circulation 527-3342 / 527-3348 / 528-0183 / 528-0186 and 528-9213 / Fax: 528-0234  
 • Circulation Customer Service Hotline 896-8000



**Publisher** ISAGANI YAMROT  
**Editor in Chief** LETTY JIMENEZ-MAGSANOC  
**Managing Editor** JOSE MA. D. NOLASCO  
**Associate Editor** ABELANDO S. ULANDAY  
**Associate Editor for Readership** ROSARIO A. GARCILLANO  
**News Editor** ANTONIO T. ENGRACIA JR. • **Chief, News Day Desk** NERO B. PAURON  
**Opinion Editor** JORGE V. AGUIA  
**National Editor** PERCIBERTO B. BANDAYRA JR.  
**Senior Desk Editor** JUAN V. SANTIAGO JR.  
**Editorial Consultant** AMANDO DOROMILA  
**Chief Photographer** ERNE U. SANTIAGO  
**Art & Design Director** LYNETT A. VILLARMA  
**Board Chairman** MANDI R. PRIETO  
**President** ALEXANDRA PRIETO-ROMUALDEZ  
**Executive Vice President** DAVID O. VALDES  
**Senior Vice President for Sales and Marketing** RENATO R. REINOSO  
**VP for Advertising** FELIPE R. OLARTE  
**AVP for Circulation** GLORIA P. LANOZARAL  
**Readers' Advocate** LORNA KALAW TIROL  
[readersadvocate@inquirer.com.ph](mailto:readersadvocate@inquirer.com.ph) • Tel. No. 897-8888, Loc. 342

All rights reserved. Except as permitted by law, no part of this Philippine Daily Inquirer may be reproduced or distributed in any form or by any means stored in a retrieval system without its prior written permission.

## Sound advice

**L**AST SATURDAY, VICE PRESIDENT NOLI DE CASTRO urged President Macapagal-Arroyo to address squarely the "Hello Garci" question to stem the restiveness in some sectors of our society, particularly the military. This is unprecedented but sound advice from the Vice President who has himself said that it was not his habit to give unsolicited advice to the President.

## EDITORIAL

We believe that the President would do well to heed her Vice President's advice. The "Hello Garci" matter lies at the root of the question over the legitimacy of the Arroyo presidency, and unless it is addressed and explained to the satisfaction of the people, political instability and turmoil will continue until the very end of Ms Arroyo's term. If she is really concerned about the economic and political stability of the nation, would she want the present state of affairs to continue?

Actually, Ms Arroyo addressed the "Hello Garci" issue at the height of the scandal last year, but her statement raised more questions than it gave answers. In a short speech broadcast over nationwide TV, she apologized for what she called "a lapse in judgment" in phoning an election official whom she did not identify. She said she did it because she wanted to protect her votes. She did not give any other details. Her statement only strengthened the belief of some sectors that she rigged and stole the 2004 presidential election.

If she is finally to give a complete explanation, how will she do it? An impeachment trial would be ideal because it is an adversarial proceeding. Her testimony or that of her aides could be challenged by the testimony of other witnesses. The truth of statements could be proved or disproved in the presentation of evidence and in the cross-examination of witnesses. Finally, the people may get the whole truth about the "Hello Garci" scandal and the 2004 presidential election.

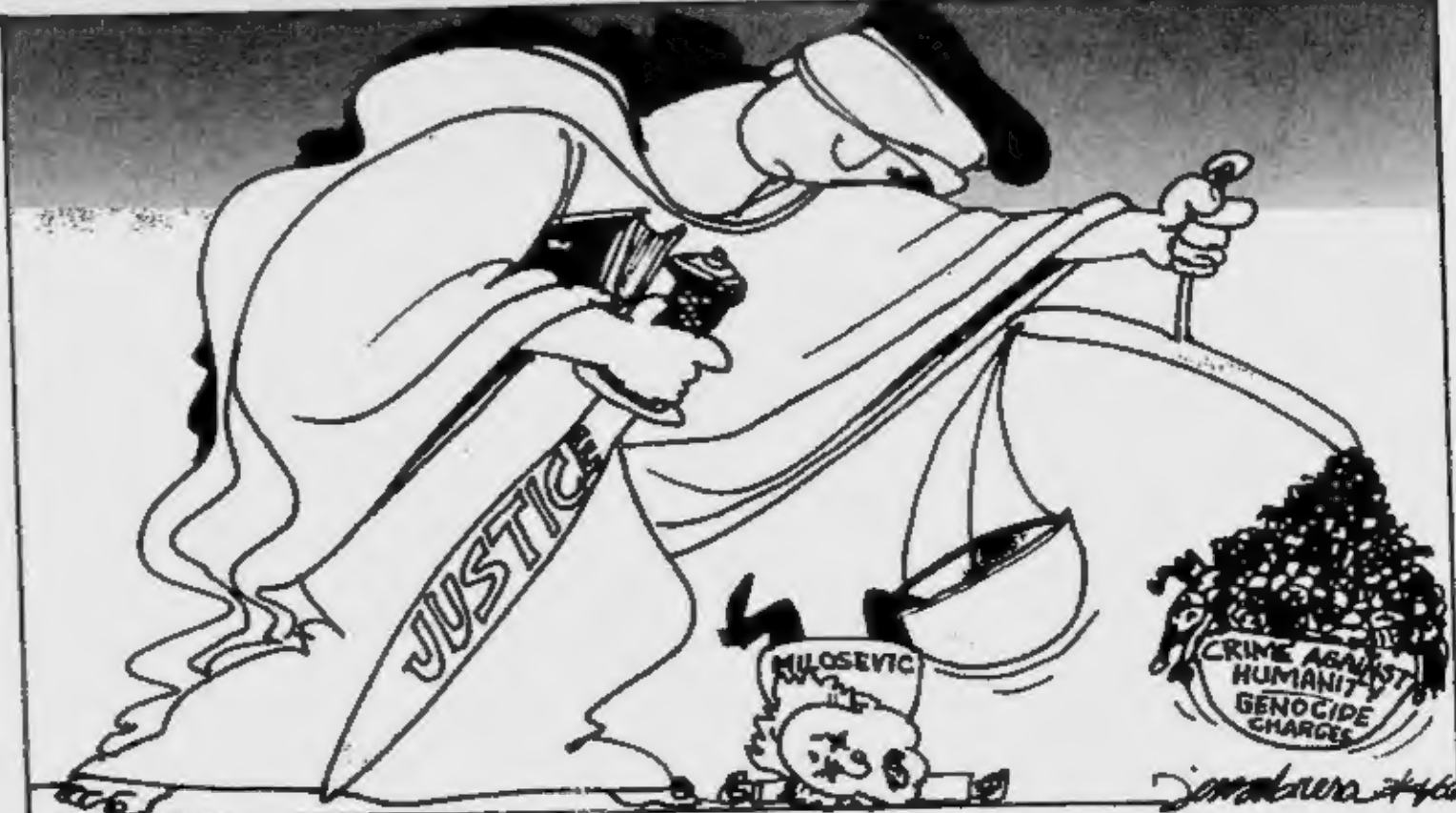
The matter could have been resolved had the impeachment trial been allowed to proceed last year, but her allies in the House used their overwhelming numbers to quash the impeachment complaints. We hope the pro-administration congressmen would think carefully before they vote on an expected impeachment complaint this year. If they want to put an end to the current political instability, an impeachment trial could be the solution.

Another way of addressing the issue of the legitimacy of Ms Arroyo's presidency would be to hold a snap presidential election. Congress could pass a law authorizing the holding of a snap election since the Constitution does not provide for it. Thailand is now about to hold a snap election to try to put an end to its current political turmoil. Like Ms Arroyo, Thaksin has been asked to resign by protesters, but he has said time and again that he would not bow to their demands for his resignation.

"I am ready to quit, but only through a democratic process," Thaksin said. We believe that our nation could also resolve the question that is rocking our political and economic stability through the democratic process of a snap election. But first, of course, the Augean stable that is the Commission on Elections has to be cleaned up to insure that the one who wins the snap presidential election wins it fair and square.

The current restiveness of various sectors of society, not the least of which is the military, will not end until the question of the legitimacy of Ms Arroyo's presidency is answered to the satisfaction of the entire nation. Band-aid solutions—such as dialogues with military officers and men, and salary raises for government employees—will not do the trick. The President will be forced time and again to declare a state of emergency to meet real or imagined challenges to her staying in power. Meanwhile, political and economic instability will be exacerbated.

For the good of the country, we urge President Arroyo to heed the good advice of her Vice President: she should come clean, tell the complete truth about the "Hello Garci" matter and settle, once and for all, the question about the legitimacy of her stay in Malacañang.



## Same mongrel

## VIEWPOINT

Juan L. Mercado



does not ram salvation down man's throat. So, are these generals cut from a different cloth?

The "Liberation" called for soldiers to troop down Ayala Avenue on the 20th anniversary of Edsa I, sporting white patches, and with their gun muzzles down. Then, AFP's highest officers would clamber on the stage and announce: they were withdrawing support from the President.

This "bloodless maneuver" presumably would meet the exacting standards of even Mahatma Gandhi who said: "Non-violence is the first article of my creed. It is the final article in my faith."

It was high on theatrics and low on firepower, the INQUIRER source noted. Government won't just collapse when rebels say: 'Boo! Many AFP officers retain constitutional values, a Yale University study found. Will religious groups salute? And the Catholic Church?

Manila is not the Philippines. Would local governments docilely submit? And what about ordinary people in the provinces? They've refused, so far, to rise up in People Power.

"Theirs, I think, is not silence. Even now...they are making a loud statement," writes the INQUIRER's Antonio Montalvan II. "They are, in fact, rejecting the present field of alternative personalities."

A façade of "normality" would be maintained. "Congress will not be shut down"—for the moment. Only heads of the legislative and judiciary would be lopped off—for a start.

Sure, the caretakers would scrap the Constitution and take over government, "briefly." The call for "immediate elections was key ...

and everyone would be busy campaigning .... Besides, the military has the barrel of the gun," said the source. This is still being said in 2006?

In April 1990, the late National Scientist Dioscoro Umali cautioned UP graduates: "The wasteland of moral values ... is most strikingly seen in the atrophied constitutional reflexes of some military men. Oblivious to the irony, they proclaim a creed that bastardizes Mao Zedong's axiom. Democracy, they tell us, grows out of the barrel of a gun."

Senator Joker Arroyo speaks of the same numbing of constitutional values. "Violations of the Constitution have transmogrified into ordinariness. The protests, even in the Senate, have become mechanical reactions."

Gun barrels would install a "transition council" of initially five, military officers. All unelected ("no-els"), they'd rule by decree, as Marcos, Suharto, Thanom, Park, Amin, Somoza, Noriega and Pinochet did. If combat boots turn off people, why, some pliant civilians could deodorize the junta.

But ex-secretary Renato de Villa threatened to quit if Jose Ma. Sison joined to represent the Communist Party. *Si di kayo na lang diyon.* (Read: "Over my dead body.")

Their first edict would declare the May 2004 elections "null and void." They'd rule while the Commission on Elections is purged before elections will be held.

There'd be "fair trials" for Ms Arroyo, Virgilio Garcillano, Agriculture Undersecretary Jocelyn "Joc-Joc" Bolante and others. By military tribunals? The kangaroo trial of Senator Benigno Aquino under Military Tribunal No. 1 is not exactly reassuring.

In a region where democracy remains fragile, Indonesia is emerging from three decades of dictatorship, Associated Press reports. "The world's largest Muslim nation is making significant progress toward rule of law, press freedom and transparency" even as the Philippines backslides into possible caudillo rule.

Indeed, "there is much law at the end of a bayonet."

## Responsibility

## THERE'S THE RUB

Conrado de Quiros



can be caught on tape plotting with Garci to steal the elections and she can deny it to death, everybody else can be caught on tape or video plotting to overthrow her and they can deny it to death. At the very least, my friend said, they can always say the tape or video was doctored. At the very most, they can always say with a robotic voice, "I...am...sorry." She brought this absurdity on herself.

Quite apart from that, what's so wrong with GMA telling media to be responsible is that she arrogates unto herself the power to determine what is truthful or not. Even if GMA were the most truthful woman on this earth—which is like saying, even if her husband were the most honest man on this earth—that is the most dangerous thing on this earth. No leader may presume to tell media what or how to report on the ground that he or she knows best, or heaven help us, has espied God's plan for this country. That is the kiss of death for any democracy.

Erap didn't just win the elections in his time, he won it big-time. That did not give him the right to tell media how to behave responsibly, though that too was exactly what he tried to do then. He pretty much closed down the Manila Times by bearing down on its owners, and called for an ad boycott on the INQUIRER in hopes of bringing it to its knees. His reason? They were reporting him wrongly. It was a concept that was not lost on his subalterns in the provinces, who also tried to do the same thing to local newspapers they decreed were reporting them wrongly. Then—as now—media fought back.

The concept that anyone, other than the journalists themselves banded together in an effort to raise standards, may arbitrate on truth in reporting is dangerous in an even

more literal sense. It carries with it lethal consequences. Last year, I was absolutely dumbfounded when I talked in a couple of provinces about the killing of journalists, and several persons among my audience asked me if the victims had not in some way brought their fate upon themselves by reckless reporting.

I said that most of the victims had in fact been reporting on the wrongdoing of officials—drugs, corruption, gambling—when they were killed. And I pointed out exceptionally animatedly that the most scandalously reckless reporting does not justify being killed. We have laws to correct the fault, and public officials do not lack for means to seek redress or air their side to the public. I pressed on even more animatedly that the day we agree to let public officials decide what the truth is and what punishment their detractors deserve is the day we hammer the last nail on the coffin of democracy. Let's just shoot ourselves in the head. It's faster, more painless, and has the same effect.

There is a variation on the theme of tyrants asking media to report responsibly and that is, tyrants asking media to stop being negativistic and dwell on the "positive" instead. Truly, those who do not heed their history are doomed to repeat it. That was what the Marcos regime ordered the media to do, practice "development journalism," which essentially meant to report on the presumably good things martial law was doing for the country. The concept swiftly turned into its satirical cousin, which was "envelopment journalism." The latter referred to the envelopes full of money that went to the editors for printing Malacañang press releases as headline stories. All the newspapers at the time carried the same front page stories in nearly identical words. The editors got rich, the readers got poor.

You hear government asking the media to "report responsibly" and "dwell on the positive," dig in, fortify the trenches. The enemy is coming.

\*\*\*

Forgot to mention yesterday, our Thursday concert is FREE. Come one, come all. Be free.



## Defining parameters

AT THE RECENT WAKE FOR REP EDCEL Lagman's father, I chatted with some of Edcel's lawyer classmates from UP Class 1966. The topic was the crackdown by the Arroyo administration on military elements that supported the recent coup attempt. One lawyer said he is all for the purge which is long overdue. His seems to be the popular feeling. It has now become obvious to many that the soft-handling of the rebellious military by past administrations has encouraged incorrigible elements to repeatedly try to bring down the government.

The row between the Inquirer and the military establishment over recently published articles shows there are always two sides of a coin. Over the past 20 years, the Inquirer has cultivated sources deep in the military, and understandably many of them do not want to be quoted. On the other hand, the military obviously feels Inquirer's "sources" may not be telling the whole truth, or that they may be manipulating it for their own agenda. It fears that half-truths may be aiding, wittingly or unwittingly, destabilization efforts. The military said it's thinking of filing charges against the paper. Filing charges is an option open to those who are aggrieved by a news story; nay a right our Constitution guarantees. On the other hand, the newspapers would not be wanting for lawyers ready to defend the freedom of the media. Recent developments are defining the parameters of state-media relations along the buzzwords of media freedom and responsibility, which should not be opposing but twin or partner concepts.

Sen. Joker Arroyo was quoted as wondering why there has been "no outrage" over what he deemed to be violations of people's civil liberties and the technical arrest of left-wing House leaders. The latter event drew some protest from some House members, but Arroyo noted that there was hardly a whimper even in the Senate. I suspect one reason is people-power fatigue; another is that citizens are disappointed with these leftist leaders.

When these militants first surfaced to run under the party-list system, following the repeal of the an-

### POLITICAL TIDBITS

Belinda Olivares-Cunanan

ti-subversion law, many citizens welcomed the possibility that they would serve as the conscience of the elite-dominated Congress. With their entry into the parliamentary struggle, people expected them to abandon their links to the underground Left. But the people were disappointed when the leftist House members failed in condemning the violent and terroristic acts of the New People's Army.

Yesterday, the Department of Justice started its preliminary investigation into the allegations that leftist representatives have been channeling their CDPs to the NPAs. The allegations have yet to be proved in court, but add them up to the prominent role the leftist groups played in the recent destabilization moves and few should wonder why there's little sympathy for them. It's telling, for instance, that a columnist in another paper recently asserted that perhaps the party-list system may be a "greater evil" than the weaknesses of the democratic system that it's trying to fix.

A handsome coffee table book, titled "Abaca Philippines," will be launched this Thursday, March 16, 5:30 p.m. at the Ayala Museum. It is co-published by one of the most outstanding anti-impeachment legislators, Camarines Sur Rep. Luis Villafuerte, and eAsia Outsourcing & Marketing Services. Titled as the "first comprehensive visual guidebook on the abaca plant and its numerous by-products," the book, authored by Lalaine Villafuerte-Abonal, daughter of Louie and Nelly Villafuerte, celebrates in over 750 colored photographs the diversity of the amazing abaca, which Rep. Villafuerte calls "an environmentally-intelligent material."

The book explores abaca as gorgeous textile, pulp and specialty paper, high-fashion

furniture and décor accessories, cosmetics and skin care products, and versatile wrapping material. It also shows its great industrial potential as ceramic textile and roofing material, teabag for the tea-drinking billions, banknote and security paper, insulation material for computer chips, bumper wrapper, and many other possibilities. Noted fashion designers such as Dita Sandico-Ong also explore it as haute-couture attire, modeled by Representatives Eileen Ermita-Buhain, Anna York Bondoc, Miles Rocas and Albert Garcia, and Trade Undersecretary Carissa B. Cruz.

What I like most about the book is that it focuses on abaca production as the crucial impetus that would liberate Bicolandia and other abaca-producing regions from poverty. Grab the book at launch prices.

Last March 8, International Women's Day, over 700 independent women leaders (and a few men) affixed their signatures to a two-page newspaper spread, declaring their unwavering support for the Constitution and the rule of law. They also expressed their gratitude to the gallant soldiers and police who uphold the law and follow the chain of command; and they exhorted their countrymen to unite, with God's help, to move the country forward: "Tama na ang Gulod! Let's move on." Among the prominent signatories were renowned concert pianist Nena del Rosario Villanueva, business leaders Loida Nicolas Lewis and Lourdes Avancena-Arcenas and civil society leader Angelina Barrera. Basically, these were the same leaders who issued a decalogue supporting the Constitution and the rule of law during the House impeachment process, and conducted a vigorous campaign in radio and TV in support of constitutional processes.

The leaders belong to an NGO called "Mahal Ko, Bayan Ko," which raises funds for patriotic activities through various means, such as selling flag lapel pins. The prime movers are convenor Evelyn Kilyay, Bessy Buencamino, Peggy Vera, Mariou Varona, Marie del Rosario, Dianne Dumapup, Suzette Pido, Marietta Cuyegkeng, Soiri Luz Nuyda and Mel Chan.

## Middle-class anger

### AT LARGE

Rina Jimenez-David

NO OPPOSITION leader has been assassinated, though a number, notably the more militant of the party-list legislators, have been arrested, or labor under the threat of arrest. Officials issue warnings about how business leaders, who supposedly financed the failed coup, and other anti-GMA figures are under surveillance and how they would be brought in "soon." The military brass is conducting a "hunt" for putschists supposedly still within their ranks.

The fear and tension are there, but where is the public anger? Public opinion surveys reveal that the majority of the Filipino people believe that the President has yet to tell the whole truth about the results of the 2004 elections and that they think she should resign or be replaced. But we have yet to feel this public opinion support expressed in terms of warm bodies at the rallies; or the palpable anger expressed in creative street corner protests and political paraphernalia like T-shirts, pins and pennants.

I remember a friend once commenting ruefully that he should have known that the movement advocating a "boycott" of the 1984 Batasan elections had no public support whatsoever when only a few pieces of his "boycott" pins sold.

Is the absence of saleable protest items—and customers for them—indicative of public indifference, or just the lack of entrepreneurial fervor among today's protesters?

EXPLANATIONS for the political apathy of the members of the Filipino middle class—as well as their anger at the various groups mounting protests against the Arroyo administration—have not been

lacking. Last Sunday, I reprinted the rebuttal of Bong Austero, the author of one letter purporting to reflect the sentiments of the middle class, to a reply issued by Enrique Romo, who is himself a middle-class entrepreneur, who happens to lead the anti-GMA "Black and White" movement.

As Austero says, they are "sick and tired" of being judged by people who persist in adopting a "morally superior" stance over everyone else who doesn't share in their sentiments.

But his letter doesn't explain why they feel anger toward the protesters but not toward President Macapagal-Arroyo, even if, as Austero says, he never really liked her. Or why they are not upset at the sight of police beating up demonstrators and bodily carrying off protest leaders seeking to assert every citizen's right to peacefully assemble and express their sentiments. Or why they are upset at the rallies and protests, congressional investigations, attempts at resurrecting "people power," but not at the possibility of a stolen election or at a Constitution being twisted to perpetuate a president's stay in office.

PERHAPS President Macapagal-Arroyo is simply lucky. This latest crisis has come at a time when the national mood has hit a downswing, and when there is no compelling event to focus middle-class anger.

We have seen evidence of the anger of the underclass, as shown by the riotous May 1 march towards Malacanang, the first serious threat to the Macapagal-Arroyo presidency. But the mass, it seems, does not direct public opinion—or at least recognizable public opinion. Despite our dwindling number, it's still the bourgeoisie that creates the critical mass necessary for "People Power" or for the power of public opinion to create the compelling environment for a presidential resignation.

Of course, there's no guarantee that even if we should, by some miracle, behold a resurrection of the parliament of the streets of 1983-1986, that the President would respond in the way she should. But at least she would not feel as smug or self-righteous.

## The real long march

### WORLD VIEW

Sun Shuyun

troops guarding the chains of the Luding Bridge with machine guns, and opened the way for the marchers. Mao told Edgar Snow, author of Red Star Over China, that crossing the Dadu River was the single most important incident during the Long March, and today it is enshrined as such.

But the documents that I have seen indicate that the general who commanded the division that crossed the Dadu River first told Party historians a very different story. "This affair was not as complicated as people made it out to be later," he said. "When you investigate historical facts, you should respect the truth. How you present it is a different matter."

So the legend lives on. There was only a skirmish over the Dadu River. The local warlord, who hated Chiang Kai-shek, let Mao pass. As a reward, he was later made a minister in the Communist government.

The marchers did not know where they would end up. There were constant debates about the final destination. When they converged in north China in October 1936, it was hailed as the end of the March. But the "promised land" was not as promised. It could barely support its own population, let alone the Red Army.

Soldiers had no clothes to protect them from freezing cold. Women were ordered to turn back and go home because there was not enough food. Barely a month after the union of the three Red armies, the Party decided that the Long March was to continue. But the kidnapping of Chiang Kai-shek by the general he had appointed to wipe out the Communists saved them. As part of the price for his release, Chiang recognized the Com-

munist as legitimate. The Long March was over.

Not, however, for the 21,000 men and women of the Western Legion. They belonged to the Fourth Army, headed by Zhang Guotao, Mao's archrival. Their mission was to get help from Russia at the border in western China. But Mao kept sending them contradictory orders; the result was that they could neither fight nor retreat.

Trapped in barren land where survival was difficult, the overwhelming forces of Muslim warlords wiped them out. Only 400 reached the border; the rest were killed or captured.

It was the Red Army's biggest defeat. Yet it is missing from official history. Wang Quanyan, a senior officer, was taken by a Muslim commander as a concubine. That was enough to make her a traitor in the eyes of the Party, negating all her years of dedication. She and the rest of the Fourth Army survivors had to fight for half a century to be recognized as marchers.

The Long Marchers persevered, fought, starved, despaired, and endured. Hunger drove the armies to take hostages for ransom. Purges continued until practically no officers were left to command battles. If the marchers had doubts, they conquered them with the help of Communist propaganda. They rose to their ordeal with a bravery and self-sacrifice unsurpassed in China's or anyone's history.

What motivated them? I asked a top general what he knew of communism at the time. "I had no idea then and now," he replied. "I doubt that even Mao knew what it was." For him, a survivor of extreme poverty and oppression, communism was a beautiful, sustaining dream, the hope of a just and advanced society.

Perhaps, no one knew or could know how much suffering would lie ahead, how great the sacrifice would be, and how vast the difference between the dream and the reality. Project Syndicate

Sun Shuyun is author of "The Long March," to be published in March 2006.

## Father-daughter dance

I AM NOT MUCH OF A WRITER, BUT SOMETHING WORTH remembering happened last night that I really have to write about.

Papa was driving me to this org dinner when Louis Armstrong's "What a Wonderful World" was played on the radio. Neither of us usually sings during car rides, but for some reason, we began singing this tune which has become a favorite for father-daughter dances. Then it hit me, like Manny Pacquiao's knock-out punch to Erik Morales: how incredibly wonderful our relationship is.

Papa has been driving me to school and taking me home every day for almost two years now. Although he used to do that ever since I can remember—about

thrice a week when I was in college, and every day when I was in high school—it's ironic how it became sort of "obligatory" after I turned 21, when I legally became emancipated. In my younger years, we would talk mostly about how my day went, his favorite music, trivia, his childhood days in the province, my love life (or the lack of it)—just anything and everything under the sun. There are times when we would just sit quietly together, enjoying the silence and the comfort of each other's presence. What a wonderful world indeed.

I see trees of green, red roses too  
I see them bloom for me and you  
And I think to myself, what a wonderful world...  
I hear babies cry, I watch them grow  
They'll learn much more, than I'll never know  
And I think to myself, what a wonderful world.

Perhaps the reason I haven't had any boyfriend yet, aside from the fact that I believe in fate and destiny, is that I know it would be hard for Papa to take it. You see, he'd turn really quiet whenever he'd hear Mama and me talk about crushes and manligaw. Once there was this guy who seriously made uky-ay ng ligaw at our house. Whenever the guy came calling, Papa would either get sick or his narcolepsy would suddenly kick.

Being TV addicts, Papa and I watch "CSI," "Monk," "Alias," and many other shows together. Curiously, whenever "What a Girl Wants" is on HBO, we always find ourselves watching it together no matter how incredibly cheesy it is. Then when Amanda Bynes finally gets her father-daughter dance, I'd turn to him and say, "Pa, I love you... it's time to let go." And then I kiss him.

He'd usually give me a smile and sometimes say, "I love you, too." But it was only after about 10 or more reruns and lambings that he started to learn slowly to let go.

"What a Wonderful World" was the same father-daughter dance Claire Forlani and Anthony Hopkins shared in "Meet Joe Black" before he left her. During my debut, almost five years ago, "Butterfly Kisses" was our dance. At that time, I felt that something in him was still holding on to me as his only daughter.

But after singing together "What a Wonderful World" last night, I told him, "Pa, I love you." When he answered back, "I love you, too," something in his tone assured me that now he really is ready to let me go.

Timmy Alonzo, 22, is a 2nd year student at the Ateneo de Manila School of Law.

## Girl on the beach

Aida Rose E. Villanueva

STANDING AT THE WATER'S EDGE, WITH THE AFTERNOON sun beating down her back, she quietly snapped pictures of the shoreline. She had grown up swimming on a beach like this, just a few kilometers north of where she was standing now, where the sand was almost as dark as her hair and the water murky like rain clouds. Yet these never once mattered to her as a child. The water was always enticing, despite its gloomy appearance.

She thought of several Sundays spent in this particular beach with her family, when she was still a child of five or younger. She dug deeper into her thoughts and found it incomprehensible that she could no longer remember the last time she had been here, the last thing she had done here, the people she was with and why they just stopped coming here all of a sudden.

There were smooth stones at the water's edge, the waves lapping at them every time the water came sliding into shore, easing itself into the sand like transparent silk. There were leaves and twigs and a bit of litter. Some remained half buried in the sand, while others drifted with the waves. They'll wake up in a different place tomorrow, she thought and then let the thought go with a tinge of jealousy.

She looked at her watch. About half an hour more and she would be going down the road again, forced to listen to overplayed rock songs on the radio on the drive home, much like the way her departure was imposed, too. Laughter echoed behind her, but it sounded almost like a mockery of what happiness was. For the world, it was nothing more than a fleeting moment, a balloon reduced to mere rubber when not allowed to fly, a beautiful sunset that disappeared before one could even find the perfect word to describe it. For the world, time and happiness were in a constant chase, one trying to outrun the other but neither really emerging the victor. How she longed for that day when happiness would lose its deadline, when it finally became what it was meant to be: timelessness incarnate.

"For the time being then, am I lonely?" she mused. Her head answered with a silent yet definite no. It was not because she was afraid to admit it but because it was the truth. But then she had always thought there was something romantic about the notion of loneliness, of solitude, even of death and dying. It was not about being manic-depressive or anything which should raise the psychological alarm. Maybe being lonely defined in a different sense: the world, as the years go by, sinking lower and lower in the mire created by itself, slipping farther and farther away from the ideal. She herself was no exception, she admitted, she was nothing short of a disappointment. Everybody was, but she did not think of that as a defense. That was just the way things were, things are and things will be. It's like being in the water with the waves pounding on you and you simply ride along to survive. You ride on and on until you reach your West.

She heaved a sigh of a thousand meanings. The sun was still shining on her face, her cheeks soaking in the warmth she had always savored. It was time to put her hermit-like nature in check. After all, she did not want to look back again and not remember anything about this place, except that the sand was dark, the water murky that her face showed brown-orange in the sun.

"My life is a battle," she concluded, "but my daily existence is a blessing." Then she turned around and trudged back towards the end of another day and the beginning of a new morning tomorrow.

Aida Rose E. Villanueva, 22, has a BS Information Technology degree from the University of Asia and the Pacific.



## Into the shoes of Marcos

IN RE-ISSUING THE WARRANT issued in 1985 by the Marcos dictatorship for the arrest of party-list Rep. Crispin Beltran, the Arroyo administration graphically showed that it had stepped into the shoes of the Marcos regime.

Proclamation 1017 was nothing but a disguised repeat of Marcos' 1081 martial law order. Marcos ordered the arrest of Beltran and thousands of other Filipinos for actively opposing his dictatorial regime. Many of them were subsequently tortured, even killed.

The Supreme Court is now duty-bound to prove that it is indeed

the last bulwark of civil liberties and human rights by acting as quickly as possible on the Arroyo proclamation. The members of the high tribunal have taken an oath to preserve and defend not just the letters of the Constitution but, more importantly, its spirit. The Court's decision could either preempt or promote dictatorial tendencies.

After Marcos declared martial law in 1972, his proclamation was immediately challenged by various organizations and individuals before the Supreme Court. However, the Supreme Court then failed to pass the

supreme test of courage and wisdom when it failed to clearly and decisively declare the Marcos proclamation unconstitutional, considering that the bases for the proclamation were evidently non-existent, imagined, manufactured and exaggerated yet legally inadequate. What followed were 14 years of brutal dictatorship and a dark age for the Filipino nation.

The Supreme Court as an institution faces once more a historical challenge. How will it respond?

—MANUEL F. ALMARIO,  
mfalmario@yahoo.com

## Veteran's widow still hoping to get justice

THE ARTICLE "PVAO ARREARS. What's causing the delay?" in the August 2003 issue of *Veterano* stated:

"The surviving spouse of a deceased veteran (pensioner) is entitled to a transfer of the Old Age Pension due to a veteran on date of death of the veteran."

My husband, Robert C. Villanueva, a veteran, died on Oct. 7, 2003. I applied for Old Age Pension transfer and submitted the required documents to the Philippine Veterans Affairs Office on Nov. 12, 2003. On Dec. 19, 2003, PVAO received the additional document that it asked from me.

I received a letter dated Feb. 24, 2004, signed by Helen Fuellas for PVAO administrator Rogelio Dayan, telling me that my initial

check would be mailed to me "in due time" and that my pension arrears covering prior years were to be paid subject to the availability of funds. The letter sounded ominous to me.

True enough, I began receiving the Old Age Pension only in March 2005, retroactive to January 2005, and only after I had written Secretary Avelino Cruz Jr. about it.

Heriberto Ruanito, chief of PVAO's Financial and Management Division, claimed in his letter (dated May 3, 2005) to me that my pension arrears could not be paid unless Congress appropriates money for the purpose. He refused to tell me what happened to the allotment for my husband's Old Age Pension, which should have been transferred to me.

In July last year, I wrote Fuellas, who is chief of PVAO's Old Age Pension Division, after learning that funds for pension arrears and disability pensions were released to PVAO the month before I reminded Fuellas about my arrears and the Old Age Pension and Disability Pension arrears of my husband.

Fuellas did not answer my letter. I therefore wrote Secretary Cruz about the matter. There was no answer either.

I wonder now whether I'd still receive my collectibles from PVAO under this regime or if I'd have to wait for the next government to give me justice.

—ERLINDA B. VILLANUEVA,  
3rd Street, Tobiasville, Batang,  
Munoz Science City,  
3119 Nueva Ecija

## LETTERS

### Helpless, hopeless, going nowhere

WITH THE ONGOING POLITICAL turmoil, one can't help but feel resigned to the fact that the country is going nowhere. Despite the glowing economic statistics being bandied about by the government, the life of the average Filipino has not really improved.

In this country, the fact is, the rich become richer while the poor become poorer; there is no opportunity for the poor to make their lives better. Employment is not a guarantee of a decent life. The salary of the ordinary employee is not enough to support an adult person, much less a family with two school-age children. Hard work is fruitless; it cannot elevate the poor from their lowly economic condition. It is no wonder that most Filipinos, if given the chance, would rather work abroad, never mind if such a move would mean sacrificing one's profession.

I am getting hopeless with my situation. The chaotic events taking place make me feel even more hopeless about my children's future. I do not care anymore what happens as long as who gets to sit in the new government will improve the lives of Filipinos like me, who are working hard but in vain under the present government.

—ALDRIN DACANAY,  
dcny\_70@yahoo.com

## Bishops on the side of the people

POVERTY CONTINUES TO BE the heaviest burden our people bear. This was among the most important concerns raised by the Catholic Bishops Conference of the Philippines (CBCP) last Jan. 29 in their pastoral statement.

The bishops also declared their opposition to large-scale mining, Charter change and the No-Ed scheme.

Meanwhile, Cha-cha proponents (like Dr. Jose Abueva) say the bishops are misinformed on the Cha-cha; they insist that Cha-cha is not being rushed because the campaign has been going on for "many, many years." The Citizens' Movement for a Federal Philippines initiated the effort in 1999 and that the 11th and 12th Congresses tackled proposals to amend the Constitution. (PDI, 2/10/06)

The campaign may have been going on for "many, many years," but Abueva or any of Ms. Arroyo's mouthpieces cannot rightfully claim that the campaign for constitutional revision is an initiative of the common people, much less a response to a public clamor. If the people were truly part of the Cha-cha consultations, the proposed amendments would never be acceptable to the people who are clamoring for decent jobs, just wages, genuine land reform and other pro-poor changes long ignored by Cha-cha advocates.

During the Ramos presidency, the Church and citizens' groups rejected Cha-cha because the public would not agree to "term extension" favoring traditional politicians and to the deletion of provisions protecting national patrimony and sovereignty.

Shall we allow Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo to enjoy an extended term despite the taint of fraud and abuse on her presidency? Can we support the amendments that will further liberalize the economy, i.e., allow 100-percent foreign ownership of vital industries? Today, the national sovereignty and patrimony are being grossly violated by the current regime, whose economic, political and military policies—such as deregulation, liberalization and privatization, and the continuing presence of US troops in the Philippines in the guise of military exercises—are trampling on the Constitution.

The government will be continually challenged to address the root causes of the people's poverty which has triggered such tragedies as the Ultra stampede. Surely, the poor will become more economically and politically powerless under amendments that give foreign investors and the country's traditional elite the upper hand.

We therefore thank the bishops for their strong stance against the evil plans of the powers-that-be. We support them for listening to the poor, and for speaking and acting on their behalf. The poor are clamoring for fundamental changes that will liberate them from the bondage of poverty—i.e., changes that will prioritize the provision of quality basic services, the advancement of genuine land reform, and the creation of decent jobs for the poor.

—AMIE DURAL,  
secretary general,  
Promotion of Church People's  
Response,  
NCCP Compound, 879 Edsa,  
Quezon City

## Toppling the chief to solve a problem

THE STATE OF UNREST which prompted President Macapagal-Arroyo to declare a state of emergency is another wake-up call for us Filipinos.

Yes, time flew so fast and the state of Philippine society needs a reexamination 20 years after Edsa I. Its anniversary offered us an opportunity to learn from what happened before and use the lessons of the past as our guide to the future.

1. Edsa I captivated the world's imagination because of its uniqueness. It showed that political change without violence is possible.

2. The joys and hopes, griefs and anxieties of the Filipino people are the same now as

they were 20 years ago. The plight of the poor continues to tug at our hearts. And the call for social justice and for a more equitable distribution of wealth remains strident and urgent.

3. A key element is development, both economic and moral. Here, the "social question," discussed in various documents of the Magisterium of the Church, can be of big help as they have to be and are capable of being translated into "directives for action."

4. We are interdependent. If our Filipino brothers and sisters are hungry—if they need a decent wage so as not to be led into pursuing a Wowwee-kind of dream—then those of us

who have more should use less so we can give more. I think this is called "Christian charity."

There is no room for ambivalence given the seriousness and urgency of our social problem. It may not be so much a question of who is the "best person to lead" (this would ignore the complexity of the problem) as it is the indifference and inaction of those of us who can give more but instead ask for more.

This is quite disconcerting—to say the least: People think that toppling one person from power will solve a problem of many complex facets.

—DINA D. LUCENARIO,  
dina.lucenarioc@clipsj.com.ph

If you have any complaints, grievances or suggestions about the treatment of news and photos by the Inquirer, you may write to the Readers' Advocate, Philippine Daily Inquirer, Chino Roces Avenue, corner Yague and Mascarido Streets, City of Makati or send a fax to Nos. 897-4793, 897-4794, or e-mail readersadvocate@inquirer.com.ph

Writers of letters to the editor are requested to include their complete address and telephone or pager number or e-mail address for verification purposes. The Inquirer will not publish any letter unless such information is supplied.



# PERS GEN

LARRY ALCALAS

## APO NI ASIONG AKSAYA

by Boy Tan Tagonon

NENE INIHAW NA LIEMPO ANG TYPE KONG ULAM



DOON MO IHAW SA BAGONG ELECTRIC GRILLER NATIN HA



SA LILING NA LANG BOSMAN SANAY PO AKO DOON E!



AT SAKA YUNG ELECTRIC GRILLER NYO E WARAY NA



IPINAMIGAY NA PO NI PERS GEN SA MAGBABAKAL



MALAKAS DAW PO KASI LYON SA KURYENTE!



A public service of First Gen Corporation

ADVT



### TV GUIDE

Tuesday, March 14, 2006

Who will you see? Find out here on your Philippine local Network



Wed-Thurs-Fri 10pm




10pm




Channel	7:00PM	7:30PM	8:00PM	8:30PM	9:00PM	9:30PM	10:00PM	10:30PM	11:00PM	11:30PM	12:00AM
ABC 5	ABS-CBN 2	ABS-CBN 3	ABS-CBN 4	ABS-CBN 5	ABS-CBN 6	ABS-CBN 7	ABS-CBN 8	ABS-CBN 9	ABS-CBN 10	ABS-CBN 11	ABS-CBN 12
...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...

TV SCHEDULES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE WITHOUT PRIOR NOTICE.



 **FORTH**  
Digital Systems [www.forth.com.sg](http://www.forth.com.sg)

**"No PABX System is too BIG or too Small for us"**



Home & Small Office Mini PABX • Professional Digital PABX • Proximity Door Access System • Authorized Agents (DASA, Btc) • GSM Line Mobile Converter

- we can upgrade your obsolete PABX with our Digital Auto Attendant & GSM Line Module.
- we have "lease to own" plans for your upgrades & new requirements.
- we have 17 years experience of installation and services.
- systems for Home & Small Office starts at **\$12,000.00** only (3x8 System)
- we do in-house cabling & installations for PABX, PC LAN and CCTV.

**Exclusive Distributor:**

**SOGO** 638 Hen. Leong eor Zamora Sts. Bangkal, Makati City  
Tel Nos (832) 889-0873 to 78 • Fax No (832) 889-087  
E-mail [sales@sogo.com.ph](mailto:sales@sogo.com.ph) • Website [www.sogo.com.ph](http://www.sogo.com.ph)



Thank You.  
We couldn't have come  
this far without you.

ONCE AGAIN  
THE WORLD'S MOST  
AWARDED AIRLINE

World's Best Airline  
(17th consecutive year)

World's Best  
International Airline  
(10th consecutive year)

Best Airline  
(14th consecutive year)  
Best First, Business and  
Economy Class

Best Frequent Flyer Programme

Hall of Fame 2005  
(4th consecutive year)

Most Preferred Airline  
(5th consecutive year)

Best First and Business Class

Best Frequent Flyer Programme



SINGAPORE  
AIRLINES

A great way to fly

## NEW US ENVOY

The new United States Ambassador to the Philippines Kristie A. Kenney, at left, poses with US Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice and Philippine Ambassador to the US Alberto del Rosario shortly after her oath-taking in Washington D.C. She is expected to arrive in Manila this month.  
US DEPARTMENT OF STATE PHOTO



## Imelda may recover gems in out-of-court settlement

By Alcuin Papa

FORMER FIRST LADY IMELDA MARCOS may be able to recover some, if not all, of her fabulous jewelry if the Presidential Commission on Good Government (PCGG) pushes through with its plan to strike a compromise with her.

PCGG Commissioner Ricardo Abcede said an out-of-court settlement, on the jewelry estimated to be worth \$20 million, would be a good start in the government's attempt to fast-track the recovery of the Marcoses' ill-gotten wealth.

He said the PCGG needed to come up with practical solutions to the cases involving the Marcos wealth because the "observance of due process" had prolonged their resolution.

"I wish this (jewelry issue) would be part of

an overarching reconciliation between the government and Mrs. Marcos. Is there a way that government could have a comprehensive reconciliation with [her]?" Abcede said.

"Maybe we (PCGG and Imelda) could sit down and talk about it. How much would you want to surrender, how many percent would go to the government and how much is yours, something like that," he said.

Last year, the PCGG was set to auction off the Marcos jewelry collection, composed of pieces from the world's foremost jewelers like Bulgari, Cartier and Harry Winston, but the former first lady went to court to stop the sale.

In response, Abcede said the courts had already ruled in favor of the government on the issue of ownership of the collection, most of which is stored in Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas vaults.

Of late, the PCGG has been actively exploring the option of out-of-court settlements with some Marcos associates. This was the tack the PCGG took with regard to the four sequestered companies of tapan Lucio Tan and the multibillion-peso coconut levy fund.

## LOTTO

MEGALOTTO 6/45

2 10 11 12 42 43

P17,419,329.00

GET THE LATEST LOTTO  
RESULTS DAILY

Text LOTTO to 299

Open to all SMART subscribers. Only P2.50 per message.

(In exact order)

EZ2

26 19

SUERTRES

0 0 4

FOUR DIGIT

5 9 4 9

## Palace to create 'green' agency

By Blanche S. Rivera

MALACANANG WILL create another government arm to enforce environmental laws.

Environment Secretary Angelo T. Reyes said President Macapagal-Arroyo would issue an executive order creating the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), which Reyes also will head.

The EPA's job will be to enforce environmental laws, which Reyes insisted would not overlap with the functions of the Department of Environment and Natural Resources.

"The EPA will be under the Office of the President so it can more easily access the services of people under the different departments, especially for illegal logging," Reyes said in a press briefing.

He said the EPA would tap the Armed Forces of the Philippines, Philippine National Police, and even

the Land Transportation Office to ensure compliance with laws like the Clean Air Act, Clean Water Act and the Forestry Law.

The appointment of Reyes, a former AFP chief of staff and defense chief, to the DENR was meant to send a strong message that the government was serious in enforcing neglected environmental laws.

"The problem has always been enforcement. This (creation of EPA) will provide more muscle (to enforce them)," Reyes said.

FLORIDA



CR-V  
Select

A Revolution  
in Value  
at P999,000

Enjoy the best value for money on other Honda models

Model / Variant	SRV	LOW DOWNPAYMENT PLAN		LOW MONTHLY INSTALLMENT PLAN	
		15% DP	Monthly Amortization (60 mos.)	15% DP	Monthly Amortization (60 mos.)
CITY 1.3 AMT	P572,000	P85,800	P10,966	P286,000	P6,320
Accord 1.3 SMT	P645,000	P96,750	P12,269	P322,500	P7,030
CR-V 2WD 5P MT	P999,000	P149,850	P19,162	P499,500	P11,047
Accord 2.4 VTEC	P1,430,000	P214,500	P27,301	P715,000	P15,684

We're defying the conventions of your dream SUV with the CR-V Select! Enjoy the luxurious features and the sporty performance of the CR-V for less than P1M only! Now, taking home your new SUV has never been this easy!

Promo is until  
March 31, 2006 only!

For DUNN Point No. 1103 Series of 2006

Visit any authorized dealers for details

Honda City 1.3 AMT 5.5% 0.5% 1.3% 1.3%  
 Honda Accord 1.3 SMT 5.5% 0.5% 1.3% 1.3%  
 Honda CR-V 2WD 5P MT 5.5% 0.5% 1.3% 1.3%  
 Honda Accord 2.4 VTEC 5.5% 0.5% 1.3% 1.3%



**Editor Ester G. Dipasupil**

**Text us your feedback:** Inquirer.net name/age/city/message to 2207 (Globe) or 283 (Smart)

**By Gerry Lirio**

**WILL THERE BE FIREWORKS? OR FORGIVENESS?**

Boxing icon Manny Pacquiao will be put on the defensive in a scheduled face-to-face courtroom meeting today with a former lover and the son the boxing hero had allegedly fathered.

A hearing of the case, filed by Joanna Rose Barosa to seek recognition and support for her

son, will be held at the office of the Quezon City assistant prosecutor.

If Pacquiao keeps his word and shows up, it would be the first face-to-face meeting between the involved parties after nearly a year.

The meeting has been set at 12 p.m. at the office of the Assistant Prosecutor Ma. Gracia Casaclang, but another announcement said it would be at 2 p.m., an obvious ploy to avoid the expected swarm of mediamen.

Bacosa, Pacquiao's former girlfriend, together with her son are expected to report to the St. Luke's Medical Center in Quezon City where they plan to undergo a DNA test with or without Casacang's consent.

The results will be submitted to Casalang, apparently to reinforce the demand for Pacquiao to undergo the same test.

But more than the DNA test, Bacosa said the

PACQUIAO, A16

**AUTHORITIES COULD BE ON THE** take or have turned blind, thus allowing bike riding money-lenders, dusky intruders with distinct Asian features, to gallop all over town and prey on poor Filipino vendors, mainly the citizens of the sidewalk that form the core of the underground economy. These culprits, some riding in tandem and covering their tall noses with handkerchiefs in the tradition of Western movie highway men, have become part of the national landscape. That these foxy foreigners, who may have bribed their way into the country, are allowed to ply an illicit trade in the spirit of the infamous "Bumby 5-6" week, also leads to the suspicion that authorities are too busy letting foreign prisoners fly the coop to be able to contain these raging usurers. In our midst, poor Filipinos are victimized by these wily invaders seven days a week. A special report on the usurious operations starts tomorrow. **Reciah Trinidad**



SAFEY - 5906

# 4U!

**INNOVA**  
A Beautiful (R)evolution

This March, you can own the ALTIS and INNOVA with 4 great deals.  
To celebrate our 4<sup>th</sup> year as the country's NO. 1 in sales  
— for Passenger Cars, Commercial Vehicles and Overall Sales\*.

**FREE ONE YEAR COMPREHENSIVE INSURANCE** for the INNOVA and the ALTIS with any of these special privileges:

**GET A TOYOTA VALUE CERTIFICATE WORTH  
P15,000.**

Toyota Value Certificates (TVCs) can be used for Toyota Genuine Accessories, Chattel Mortgage, LTO Registration, TFS Financial Package or Discount.

**LOW DOWNPAYMENT OF  
P100,000.**

Avail of this wonderful package for the Altis or Innova through Toyota Financial Services (TFS).

**LOW MONTHLY PAYMENT**  
For as low as

**P8,834** for the INNOVA and  
**P8,353** for the ALTIS (60 months)



Also avail of month-long leasing packages from TFS

[www.toyota.com.ph](http://www.toyota.com.ph)



TOYOTA FINANCIAL SERVICES 656-9940  
 1000 DEACON DRIVE, TOYOTA ALABAMA, INC. 800-600-1010 22 / 802-5051 TOYOTA RADIUM CITY, (0541) 444-5813 to 13 TOYOTA RADIUM CITY, (0541) 447-0851, (074) 390-3219 to 76 (04) 390-4126 3395, (0541) 445-0174 TOYOTA KAWAHAWA, INC. 800-890-1160 50  
 354-154 364-049 to 75 TOYOTA KAWAHAWA NORTH 927-7215, 17 82, 98 927-7242, 44 48, 52 927-7257, 67 69 927-7260 69 TOYOTA BAHAMAS, INC. 800-657-7878 48, 49 TOYOTA CREDIT, INC. (052) 253 01 TOYOTA CREDIT MARCHIO (012) 245 360-54  
 TOYOTA CREDITATION CITY, INC. (045) 463-8448 18 TOYOTA CREDITATION DE DRO, INC. 301-288-7777 30 TOYOTA CREDITATION DE DRO, INC. 301-288-7777 30 TOYOTA CREDITATION DE DRO, INC. 301-288-7777 30  
 TOYOTA COMMERCIALITY 352-222-2222 22 TOYOTA COMMERCIALITY, INC. (051) 517-2026 to 28 (05) 517-2027, 67 69 (01) 517-2028 TOYOTA COMMERCIALITY, INC. (045) 826-2046, (05) 826-2049 TOYOTA DAWD CITY, INC. (042) 234-9054  
 TOYOTA COMMERCIALITY 352-222-2222 22 TOYOTA COMMERCIALITY, INC. (051) 517-2026 to 28 (05) 517-2027, 67 69 (01) 517-2028 TOYOTA COMMERCIALITY, INC. (045) 826-2046, (05) 826-2049 TOYOTA DAWD CITY, INC. (042) 234-9054  
 TOYOTA COMMERCIALITY 352-222-2222 22 TOYOTA COMMERCIALITY, INC. (051) 517-2026 to 28 (05) 517-2027, 67 69 (01) 517-2028 TOYOTA COMMERCIALITY, INC. (045) 826-2046, (05) 826-2049 TOYOTA DAWD CITY, INC. (042) 234-9054  
 TOYOTA CITY, INC. 884-1851 to 20 TOYOTA CREDITATION TARD, INC. 881-800-1010 TOYOTA CREDITATION TARD, INC. 881-800-1010 TOYOTA CREDITATION TARD, INC. 881-800-1010 TOYOTA CREDITATION TARD, INC. 881-800-1010  
 TOYOTA CITY, INC. 884-1851 to 20 TOYOTA CREDITATION TARD, INC. 881-800-1010 TOYOTA CREDITATION TARD, INC. 881-800-1010 TOYOTA CREDITATION TARD, INC. 881-800-1010 TOYOTA CREDITATION TARD, INC. 881-800-1010


**TOYOTA**  
*moving forward*

**Now that you're thinking about a new home, call us.**

**845-8772**



**PSBank**  
PHILIPPINE SAVINGS BANK  
A MEMBER BANK OF PSBFC

Or visit any of our branches today.

# Home DAN



## Pacquiao on the ropes

From page A15

meeting is very vital because the familial instincts (or "lukso ng dugo," as she put it) of both father and son during their new encounter should speak volumes on her case against Pacquiao.

"That we have to see," said Bacosa's lawyer Victor Rodriguez who added Pacquiao is definitely expected to show up in today's hearing.

Pacquiao happened to be in Hong Kong with his family when the first meeting on the case was held last week.

Bacosa, 24, has claimed that she and Pacquiao were sweethearts for two years and that their affair bore fruit after she gave birth to the boy in January 2004.

Pacquiao had denied her claims, but vowed to provide the boy financial support if a DNA test would prove he was the biological father.

Bacosa sued Pacquiao last Feb. 8 for alleged violation of Republic Act No. 9262, which protects women from violence, and to seek support for the boy.

## Why AFP Chief Senga vacillated

IF THE REPORT IN THE INQUIRER by Re Zamora last Sunday was true (and I have no doubt it was), then President Macapagal-Arroyo is walking on a tight rope.

She's at the mercy of the military and the so-called civil society. The country nearly woke up being led by a military junta, according to Zamora. A "caretaker council" would have taken over the government from Ms. Arroyo, Zamora said in her report quoting "military sources."

The council would have been headed by Armed Forces Chief of Staff Gen. Generoso Senga.

Senga, however, has vehemently denied the report. I can see some basis for reports that Senga vacillated during the crucial moments. Senga was recommended by the "Hyatt 5," headed by former Social Welfare Secretary Dunki Soliman. The Hyatt 5 were former Cabinet members who broke away from the President in the wake of the "Hello Garci" controversy. Senga is also very close to former Tarlac Gov. Margarita "Tingtung" Cojuangco, former President Cory's (Aquino) sister-in-law. The plot to oust GMA was allegedly hatched at the house of the Cojuangcos.

Tingtung's husband, former Tarlac Rep. Jose "Peping" Cojuangco, allegedly talked to Bng. Gen. Danilo Lim, commander of the Scout Rangers, about the plan over the phone. The plot allegedly fizzled out after Lt. Gen. Hermonogenes Esperon, Army chief, re-

fused to join. GMA is lucky she has the ever-loyal former Presidential Security Group (PSG) chief in command of the biggest major command of the Armed Forces. Had Esperon gone along with coup plotters, it would have been the end for the President.

**ON TARGET**  
**Ramon Tulfo**



AMONG those reportedly involved in the plot were former President Cory Aquino and El Shaddad leader Mike Velarde. Aquino's

intention in joining the plot is less than noble. She wanted to get back at the President for leaving her family-owned Hacienda Luisita in the lurch during the controversy with its laborers. Aquino didn't consider the fact that the same personalities who had tried to bring her down—then Sen. Gregorio Honasan and Danny Lim—were the same fellows taking part in the plot to oust GMA. In short, Cory, a very religious woman, is consumed by revenge. What is not understandable is Velarde's alleged participation. After practically being fed by the hand by GMA, Velarde could not be satisfied. He probably still wanted more from his "new masters." Through the President's help, Velarde was able to build a multibillion-peso housing project. Quite a sum for a guy who went bankrupt for a while after he gambled away his money at the casinos.

# Hashish oil used in cakes

By Margaux C. Ortiz

IF THAT PIECE OF BROWNIE YOU'RE EATING is giving you an unusual high, one of its ingredients might just be hashish oil, according to the National Bureau of Investigation (NBI).

Operatives of the NBI National Capital Region (NCR) have received information that marijuana farmers in Benguet, Ifugao and Mountain Province have been mixing the plant extract, also called hashish oil, with baked goods like cakes and cookies.

"These farmers reportedly bake the brownies and cakes at the plantations and sell them in Subic, Olongapo, and other areas in the lowlands," Special Investigator Federico Criste said during a press conference at the NBI yesterday.

Before the farmers learned to extract hashish oil, they used dried marijuana leaves as one of the ingredients in baking the "special cakes and brownies," Criste explained.

NBI forensic chemist Ada Magapoc said consumers of baked goods with hashish oil could experience "more potent effects because of the products' more concentrated drug content."

Magapoc said they tried to extract oil from the

marijuana plant several years ago. "We discovered that it took a lot of plants to extract 100 ml of hashish oil," the forensic chemist said.

Magapoc explained that five to 10 kilos of marijuana were needed to extract 100 ml of the oil.

Criste said the hashish extract costs P3,000 per quart.

The NBI's announcement followed the recent arrest of Elson Langpaw, an alleged marijuana supplier from Ifugao, in a bus terminal in Sampaloc, Manila.

Regional Director Ruel Lasala, NBI NCR chief, said Langpaw was arrested during a buy-bust operation conducted by joint operatives of the bureau's Anti-Illegal Drugs Task Force and the Philippine Drug Enforcement Agency.

Seized from him was a sack containing 15 marijuana bricks wrapped in newspaper.

The bricks were mixed with carrots and potatoes to avoid detection, Lasala said.

During interrogation, Langpaw admitted that he has been supplying marijuana bricks to drug pushers in Metro Manila for almost two years.

According to the suspect, each marijuana brick costs only P1,000 if directly purchased from him.



ILLUSTRATION: STEPH BRAVO

But the bricks were sold for as high as P5,000 to P6,000 each on the streets, Lasala said.

Langpaw identified a drug trafficker based in Mountain Province and Benguet as his source of marijuana bricks.

The suspect, who is now detained at the Manila City Jail, faces charges for violating the Comprehensive Drugs Act of 2002.

## TUP to probe student's death due to hazing

By Tina G. Santos

THE TECHNOLOGICAL UNIVERSITY OF THE Philippines (TUP) will conduct its own probe into the death of one of its students, Clark Anson Silverio, in alleged hazing rites.

Prof. Eduardo Doyaoen, director of the school's Office of Public Affairs, told the Inquirer that TUP president Dr. Godofredo Gallega has already instructed the Office of Student Affairs (OSA) to conduct a separate investigation "so that proper action could be taken."

He added that Gallega also met recently with officials and staffers of the OSA, the Of-

fice of Guidance and Counseling and the Medical Unit to discuss Silverio's case and come up with measures to prevent a repetition of the incident.

"The school administration is taking all the necessary action against the unlawful acts of certain elements and groups in the campus not duly registered and accredited by the university," Doyaoen said.

### 'Case a university concern'

He added that the TUP community has condemned the incident, saying that although it happened outside the campus, "we still consider the case a university concern because its

students were involved and it clamors that justice be served to the victim."

Silverio, 18, a mechanical engineering student, was killed in what police believed were hazing rites by the university's chapter of the Tau Gamma Phi fraternity conducted in a warehouse on Guatemala Street, Barangay San Isidro, Makati City.

He sustained severe contusions and was declared dead upon arrival at the Manila Sanitarium Hospital at 5:45 p.m. on March 3.

Apart from their independent efforts, Doyaoen said they were also closely coordinating with Makati policemen investigating the case.

## Fire in Pasig City leaves 36 families homeless

By Edison C. Tandoc Jr.

THIRTY-SIX FAMILIES LOST THEIR HOUSES in a two-hour fire which broke out in a crowded community in Pasig City early yesterday morning.

The alleged culprit: an unattended candle inside a two-story house where the electricity had been disconnected for over a year, PO1 Salvador Norberto said.

Nobody was injured but over P1 million

worth of property was damaged in the fire which razed 18 houses.

Quoting witnesses, Norberto said Feliza Baesa, 75, lit a candle at about 2 a.m. yesterday on the upper floor of their two-story house in Purok Rizal in Barangay Pinagbahatan.

But while the candle was still burning, Baesa fell asleep.

Two hours later, the other members of Baesa's family woke up to find that the second

floor was already on fire.

Because the house was made of light materials, the fire quickly spread to adjacent houses, including a seven-door apartment.

Radio officer FO1 Ernan San Agustin said the fire was put out at 6:08 a.m.

Fire officials had advised house owners to be careful in using candles and not leave them unattended.

## METROBRIEFS

### JOB FAIR



ILLUSTRATION: ALBERT RODRIGUEZ

### Two-day jobs fair

AROUND 1,000 jobs overseas will be offered to skilled workers and graduates of high school and college courses during a two-day international job fair at the Manila City Hall. Vice Mayor Danny Lacuna said the job fair will be held on March 17 and 18 at the Manila City Council Session Hall. The job fair will be exclusive to city residents on the following day, starting at 1 p.m. Those who would be hired will be sent to the United States, United Kingdom, Africa, Middle East and Asia. Applicants should bring identification cards and a barangay certification showing that they are bonafide residents of Manila.

Margaux C. Ortiz

### Bus runs over accountant

A 56-YEAR-OLD accountant died when he was hit by a bus while crossing Ayala Avenue at the corner of Rizal Drive in Makati yesterday morning. Anacleto Lontoc, a resident of Binan, Laguna, was killed instantly when the fire of the Farmina Express bus (MYR 525) ran over his body. He was brought to the Funeraria Filipinas on JP Rizal Avenue for autopsy. The bus driver, Novelson Flores, 36, was taken into police custody and could be charged with reckless imprudence resulting in homicide.

Tarra V. Quismundo

### In trouble for unfair competition

A CHINESE national is now facing charges before the Manila Regional Trial

Court for allegedly selling fake industrial machines. William Ong, owner of Hong-Huat Marketing located in Grace Park, Caloocan City, has been accused of unfair competition by Eric Go-Yap, executive vice president and representative of E.Y. Industrial Sales, authorized dealer of Yamato machines. Yap said Ong, along with nine others, has been using the brand name Yamato in selling fake industrial equipment like welding machines and other power tools.

Tina G. Santos

### Deadline for nominations extended

THE DEADLINE for nominations for the UP Gawad Piaridel 2006 has been extended to March 15. The award recognizes Filipino media practitioners in media (print, radio, television, film and new media) who have excelled in their profession and performed with the highest level of professional integrity in the interest of public service. For this year, the award will be given to an outstanding practitioner in radio. Eligible for the awards are all practicing Filipinos who have excelled as a station manager, producer, director, writer, announcer, reporter, etc. Only nominations from institutions will be accepted for the award. Nomination forms and awards guidelines are available at the UP CMC Office of Extension and External Relations. Interested parties may call 9206864 for details.

### Seminar-workshop for librarians

THE PHILIPPINE Society of Librarians and Information Specialists is holding a seminar-workshop on "Cataloging and Indexing Update: An Achievement Workshop" starting today until March 15. The seminar is being held at the 10th floor of the Securities and Exchange Commission building on Edsa, Ortigas in Mandaluyong City. For reservations, inquiries, please call Lynn at 7241994, Vangie 5238687 and Dory 0919-7727678.

Republic of the Philippines



### Invitation to Apply for Eligibility and to Bid

Procurement of Management Consultancy for the Cost-Based Tariff Analysis and Development Project

1. The Philippine Ports Authority (PPA) through its CY 2006 Corporate Budget approved by the PPA Board of Directors intends to apply the sum of P216,521,928.00 (E-VAT inclusive) being the Approved Budget for the Contract (ABC) to payments under the contract for Procurement of Management Consultancy for the Cost-Based Tariff Analysis and Development Project. Bids received in excess of the ABC shall be automatically rejected at the opening of the financial proposals.

2. The PPA now calls for the submission of Letters of Intent (LOI) from potential bidders to apply for eligibility and short listing for Procurement of Management Consultancy for the Cost-Based Tariff Analysis and Development Project. Interested consultants must submit their LOIs on or before April 4, 2006 at 8:00 AM to 4:00 PM at Philippine Ports Authority, Room 505 Commercial Services Department, Maranan Bldg., 22 Muñilla de San Francisco, South Harbor, Port Area, Manila and secure the Eligibility Documents therefrom upon payment of a non-refundable fee of P11,120.00 (E-VAT inclusive). Applications for eligibility will be evaluated on a "pass/fail" basis. The last day for the submission of the accomplished Eligibility Documents shall be on the date of the opening of Eligibility Documents: April 6, 2006 not later than 1:00 PM at the above address. Only those that are short listed will be entitled to submit bids.

3. The Special Bids and Awards Committee (SBAC) shall draw up the short list of consultancy firms from those who have submitted LOIs and have been determined as eligible both in accordance with the provisions of Republic Act 9184 (R.A. 9184) and its Implementing Rules and Regulations Part A (IRR-A). The short list of prospective bidders shall consist of five (5) consultancy firms. The criteria (per Sec. 24.15.3, IRR-A of RA 9184) and rating system for short listing are:

- Applicable experience of the Consultant and associates in case of joint ventures, considering both the overall experiences of the firm and the individual experiences of the principal and key staff including the times employed by other Consultants - 30%.
- Qualification of personnel who may be assigned to the job via a- via extent and complexity of the undertaking - 50%, and
- Current workload relative to capacity - 20%.

4. LOIs must be delivered by hand, through mail, or facsimile to the address below at 8:00 AM to 4:00 PM on or before April 4, 2006.

5. Bidding will be conducted through open competitive bidding procedures as specified in the IRR-A of R.A. 9184, and is restricted, unless otherwise stated, to Filipino citizens or organizations with at least sixty percent (60%) interest belonging to citizens of the Philippines. In accordance with IRR-A of R.A. 9184, only bids from short listed consultants will be opened. The process for the eligibility check is described in the Eligibility Documents. In accordance with the IRR-A of R.A. 9184 the contract will only be awarded to the Highest Rated and Responsive Bidder who was determined as such during post-qualification.

The PPA shall evaluate bids using the Quality Cost-Based Evaluation (QCBE) procedure. The Technical and Financial Proposals shall be given corresponding weights of 70% and 30%, respectively. The criteria and rating system for the evaluation of bids shall be provided in the Instructions to Bidders.

6. Interested consultants may obtain further information from the PPA at the address given below from 8:00 AM to 4:00 PM.

The cost of bidding documents shall be a non-refundable amount of P11,120.00 (E-VAT-inclusive).

7. The contract shall be completed within eight (8) months.

8. The PPA reserves the right to reject any and all bids, amend the bidding process, or not award the contract at any time prior to contract award, without thereby incurring any liability to the affected bidder or bidders.

Philippine Ports Authority

Benjamin B. Cecilio

Chairperson, Special Bids and Awards Committee

Room 505, Commercial Services Department, Maranan Bldg.

22 Muñilla de San Francisco, South Harbor, Port Area, Manila

(632) 301-8076 (Telex) or (632) 527-8356 loc. 260 to 266

bids@ppa.gov.ph or elausara@ppa.com.ph

(632) 301-9075

http://www.ppa.com.ph

Benjamin B. Cecilio  
Signature of SBAC Chairperson or  
Authorized Representative of the  
SBAC Chairperson

(PD)-March 14 & 23, 2006

www.henrybutcher.com

On the instruction of Fibertex Corporation

### SALE BY LIVE AUCTION

Machine Tools; Tooling; Plant Services;  
Miscellaneous Equipment; Vehicles

On: Thursday, 16 March 2006 - 10:30am (local time)

At: Fibertex Corporation - Km. 26, Bo. Dolores, Taytay, Rizal  
On View: Wednesday, 15th March 2006 from 9am to 5pm & morning of sale day  
Refundable Deposit: P120,000 (upon registration)

IN OVER 300 LOTS INCLUDING:-

MACHINE TOOLS - LOTUS C6240 Universal Lathe Machine; DAEGU Universal Gap Bed Lathe DLS 560 x 2000; PARKA DR9 960 Radial Arm Drill (1983); JOHNFORD 25 Vertical Milling Machine (1991); Shaper Machine 0635-1 (1994); CHEVALIER PSG 2A1224 Surface Grinder; WONGONG WBS 3205 Horizontal Bandsaw; MAGNIX MAC-50A EDM Machine; (3) PEDESTAL Drill Press; DAEGU ARGON Arc Welder Machine; Double Ended Grinders; Bench Vices Milling Machines; Sand Blaster Machine DQ-308, etc.

TOOLING - NEWS YAMATO 400mm Rotary Table Vertical/Horizontal Dividing Head; (5) 3 Jaw Lathe Chucks; Lathes Steady Rest; Tail Stock Spindle; Milling Arbors/Spindles; Face Mill Cutters; Tool Holders; HSS Twist Drills; Hand Taps; Reamers; Allen Keys; Pneumatic Tools; G-Clamps; RHAN Precision Granite Surface Plate; SINO Precision Stainless Steel Ruler; Stainless Steel Protractor, etc.

PLANT SERVICES - (2) 5000 Kgs. Cap. Overhead Crane with I-Beam Traveling Rail; (2) UANG CH 195 K Cap. Cooling Tower; UANG CH 487.5 K Cap. Cooling Tower; 1 Ton Cap. Electric Hoist w/ Mobile A-Frame; (2) Electric Hoist; (3) Electric Sissor Lifts.

MISCELLANEOUS EQUIPMENTS AND MACHINERIES - DONG SHIN PRO 450; DONG SHIN PROMAX 70; (2) HYUNDAI 330150 Plastic Injection Moulding Machines; (4-50) Assorted Moulds; (2) Stainless Twin Bowl Electric Mixers; (3) Plastic Crusher Machines; (2) NATIONAL LCS-12 Graduation Digital Scales; (2) Electric Ovens; (2) Spray Paint Booths; (3) Belt Conveyor Drying Beds; Assorted Plastic Colorants, Paints & Thinners; Plastic Bags, Pallet Jack, Mechanical Lift; Water Pumps, Motors; Assorted Electricals; Office Tables & Chairs; WATA Bundry Clock; (3) Steel Filing Cabinets; Wooden Shelving; Steel Fabricated Rack System; Refrigerators; Fire Extinguishers, etc.

VEHICLES - HINO ECONO Diesel 17 Aluminum Close Van; ISUZU Aluminum Close Van; DAEGU ESPERO GLX 4-Door Saloon; KIA PRIDE CD-5 4-Door Saloon

For further information please contact Maggie Calderon-Alcantara at Tel: 852 2910 loc. 111 Email: maggie.calderon@henrybutcher.com



CENTRAL PANGASINAN ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE, INC.  
San Carlos City, Pangasinan  
Tel: 8 (075) 532-2222 / 532-3148

### INVITATION TO BID

The Central Pangasinan Electric Cooperative, Inc. (CENPELCO) with office address at Padilla St. San Carlos City, Pangasinan invites all qualified bidders for the supply and delivery of the following substation equipment including installation and commissioning for the proposed 5 MVA Labrador substation:

- |  |          |
|--|----------|
| a. 60 KV Metering Equipments               | - 1 set  |
| b. 60 KV Air Break Switch                  | - 1 set  |
| c. 60 KV SF6 Power Circuit Breaker         | - 1 set  |
| d. 15 KV Feeder Protection Equipment       | - 1 set  |
| d.1 15 KV Vacuum Circuit Breaker (Main)    | - 1 set  |
| d.2 15 KV Vacuum Circuit Breakers (Feeder) | - 2 sets |
| d.3 Accessories and Miscellaneous          | - 1 lot  |
| e. Steel Structures and foundations        | - 1 lot  |

All interested parties shall submit Letter of Intent together with their latest company profile and secure bid documents re. Technical specifications and scope of works to PBAC secretariat starting March 22, 2006. In addition a non refundable fee of Seven Hundred Fifty Pesos (P750.00) shall be paid before securing said documents. Submission of sealed bid will be on April 06, 2006 (Thursday) at 2:00 PM (1400 hrs) at CENPELCO main office Padilla St. San Carlos City, Pangasinan wherein your bid will be opened in your presence or that of your representative. Prior to the bidding proper your company's representatives are requested to inspect/assess the site for your accurate quotation.

Request further to include in your sealed bids/proposals the delivery details, terms of payment, schedule of activities and commissioning period for evaluation purposes. The BID BOND is either in the form of cash or manager's check equivalent to two and a half percent (2 1/2 %) of the total bid price or surety bond equivalent to ten percent (10%) of the total bid price. Bid bond less than the required amount will be automatically disqualified. Bids/proposals submitted beyond the specified date and time will not be accepted.

CENPELCO RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REJECT ANY OR ALL BIDS. WAIVE ANY OF THE REQUIRED FORMALITY THEREIN AND ACCEPTS THE BIDS ONLY DEEMED MOST ADVANTAGEOUS TO THE COOPERATIVE.

(Sgd.) RODRIGO F. CORPUZ  
PBAC Chairman

Noted by

(Sgd.) ENGR. EDGARDO R. PAMONTE  
Executive Officer/Project Supervisor

(PD)-March 14 & 16, 2006



TUESDAY, MARCH 14, 2006

## The WORLD

A17

# 62 killed as 6 bombs explode in Baghdad; reprisals feared

BAGHDAD—IRAQ SUFFERED ONE OF ITS worst days of bloodshed this year as 62 people were killed and at least 250 wounded, many of them in a six-car bomb attack on a Baghdad Shiite neighborhood, sparking fresh fears of sectarian violence.

The blood-letting came as Iraqi politicians rushed forward the opening of their parliament to Thursday in a bid to foil extremists' efforts to exploit the political vacuum and further inflame communal tensions between the majority Shiites and the historically-dominant Sunnis.

The deadliest attacks targeted the poor district of Sadr City, a mostly Shiite quarter in the east of the city, as people went about their late afternoon shopping.

Within minutes, two cars exploded in the Al-Ula market, followed by one in Kayara market, two in Mirdi market and one in Dagher market, the interior ministry said.

A seventh car bomb was defused. The rash of bombings in Sadr City claimed the lives of 46 people and wounded 204 others, the ministry said.

Authorities immediately appealed for blood donors and called on police to increase their presence around Sunni mosques for fear of retaliation.

"There are continuous efforts by the terrorists to promote sectarian conflict so there is a need to deal with the threat on an urgent basis and form a government of national unity," US ambassador to Iraq Zalmay Khalilzad told reporters earlier.

The bombing of a revered Shiite mosque in Samarra, north of Baghdad, on Feb. 22 led to a wave of reprisal attacks against Sunnis and their mosques as the country appeared to be spiraling towards civil war.

The latest bombings targeted a Shiite neighborhood, home to more than two million people and a bastion of radical cleric Moqtada Sadr's militia, which is suspected of carrying out reprisal attacks against Sunnis.

In the 12 days that followed the Samarra bombing, more than 450 civilians were killed and

81 Sunni mosques attacked, of which eight were destroyed, the US military said.

The onslaught came hours after politicians, who had been postponing the opening of parliament because of a dispute over who should be prime minister in the next broad-based coalition government, suddenly brought the date forward from Sunday to Thursday.

The opening of parliament—elected three months ago—was advanced "to indicate that things need to move on a faster pace," and so that its timing did not clash with a Shiite holiday, honoring Imam Hussein, Khalilzad told reporters after sitting in on a meeting of top Iraqi politicians.

The Shiite-led government fears there could be yet more attacks against Shiite pilgrims as they stream to the holy cities of Karbala and Najaf, in the south of the country, in the coming week for their religious festival Arb'een.

Meanwhile, the chief prosecutor at the trial of Saddam Hussein urged that the ex-president be swiftly hanged if found guilty.

## Brain drain as academics become targets of attacks

BAGHDAD—SAMI AL-MUTHAFAR, a chemistry professor at Baghdad University, survived a car bomb attack in early February, walking away unscathed although several of his guards were wounded.

He knows many other scientists and academics who were not so fortunate.

"It is a big loss when we lose a professor or a scientist because they are the elite of society," said Muthafar, who was minister of higher education under former president Saddam Hussein. "It is too hard to replace those we lose."

Some 182 Iraqi university professors and academics have been killed in violence since the US-led invasion in 2003. Another 85 senior academics have been kidnapped or suffered attempts on their lives, the Association of University

Lecturers in Iraq told a news conference last week.

Few Iraqi men and women of learning are concerned about academic freedom, an issue that galvanizes campuses in the western world. In Baghdad, the goal is to survive.

Those who do survive a bombing, gun battle or are released after a kidnapping rarely chance a second attempt, causing a brain drain of leading intellectuals who are vital for educating the Iraqi professionals of tomorrow and rebuilding the country.

"Targeting professors destroys the higher education system in Iraq, which in turn destroys other sectors of society by a deterioration in the level of teaching," said Dr. Mohammad Fahad, a professor in the dentistry faculty at Baghdad University.

Reuters



BRITAIN'S Queen Elizabeth II looks at memorabilia held by a child at the Commonwealth Day Service in Sydney, Australia, March 13.

## Queen Liz's visit revives Australia republic debate

SYDNEY—HUNDREDS OF AUSTRALIANS politely welcomed Britain's Queen Elizabeth to Sydney's Opera House on Monday as her 15th visit to Australia revived a bubbling debate over whether the country should become a republic.

Excited locals and bemused tourists waved paper Australian flags as the 79-year-old monarch opened a new section of the landmark Opera House, her first official duty of a five-day visit.

But her presence has added heat to the debate over whether Australia should replace her with a home-grown head of state. A poll of more than 147,000 people taken by [www.ninemsn.com.au](http://www.ninemsn.com.au) showed that 57 percent wanted the country to become a republic.

"We're here more because of the hype and the celebrity factor

rather than because she's queen of our country," said Karen Nitch, who was at the Opera House with her young daughter.

Others admitted to even more superficial reasons to see Queen Elizabeth, who wore a lime green outfit, pearls and matching hat.

"She's got hot grandkids," said 20-year-old Alice Murray.

"She's very short," Murray said. Australia remains a constitutional monarchy 218 years after British settlers first arrived, with Britain's monarch as its head of state, represented in Canberra by a governor-general.

The queen has the right to veto any Australian law, a power which has never been used in the 105 years since Australia was federated as a nation independent of Britain.

Reuters

## WORLD BRIEFS

### UK firms got billions from Iraq war, says report

LONDON—British businesses have profited by at least 1.1 billion pounds (\$1.9 billion) since coalition forces toppled Saddam Hussein three years ago. The Independent newspaper reported Monday. Thanks to the "war dividend" 61 British companies have benefited from contracts and investments in Iraq, according to a joint investigation by independent watchdog Corporate Watch and The Independent. The amount involved could be the tip of the iceberg, according to the study, because many companies prefer to keep their Iraq relationship secret. The companies involved include private security services firms, banks, PR consultancies, urban planning consultancies, oil companies, architects, offices and energy advisory bodies, said the paper which has always opposed the war in Iraq.

AFP

### Japan princess meets Mickey Mouse



PRINCESS Masako and Princess Aiko

TOKYO—Last week, it was the zoo. On Monday, it was Disneyland. Japan's 4-year-old Princess Aiko has been getting a weekly dose of life outside the palace and what children her age go through as she prepares to start nursery school in April. Aiko, a big fan of the ancient sport of sumo, according to her father Crown Prince Naruhito, appeared a bit perplexed, if not scared, by the welcome she received by the Magic Kingdom's symbols, Mickey and Minnie Mouse. Dressed in a pale blue coat and gray trousers, Aiko shrank back and clung to her mother, Crown Princess Masako, when the characters approached to shake hands. She later recovered her composure enough to wave to waiting crowds after boarding an open-sided car

with her smiling parents. The weekly outings have also given Masako more public exposure as the 42-year-old former career diplomat copes with a stress-related mental condition believed to have been brought on by the pressures of adapting to court life.

Reuters

### 'Don't ask, don't tell'

WASHINGTON—Advocates for repealing the ban on military service by openly gay men and lesbians say they hope that their cause may be helped by the Supreme Court decision barring universities from keeping military recruiters off their campuses in protest of that ban. The unanimous ruling last week upheld a law requiring colleges to allow military recruiters access to students that is equal to access given to other employers, or risk forfeiting some federal grants. The ruling led several newspapers to write editorials calling for the government to change its policy, including USA Today, which said the ban was "archaic and hurtful." The Washington Post, which said "a combination of bigotry and inertia keeps the gay ban in place," The Baltimore Sun, and The Oregonian. "The silver lining in this decision is that it has focused attention on the underlying issue of the prejudicial 'don't ask, don't tell' policy," said Steve Ralls, a spokesperson for the Servicemembers Legal Defense Network, a group that monitors discrimination against gay people in the military.

NYT

### Apology to victim leads to arrest of thief



TOKYO—A letter of apology sent to a robbery victim speeded arrest for a Japanese man after police investigating the case identified him from the handwriting. NHK television said the man had pushed his way into the house of a 78-year-old woman in the town of Misato, western Japan and stole 15,000 yen (\$125) after threatening her with a knife. He later wrote the victim a letter saying he was sorry and returning the cash. The handwriting "and other things" led police to the man, a 51-year-old construction worker who lives near the victim, NHK said. The man, who has confessed, is heavily in debt, it said. NHK did not say how the handwriting was linked to the man. A local police official declined to give details, saying an investigation was still under way.

Reuters

### 120,000-hectare wildfire in Texas

GROOM—A raging 300,000-acre (120,000-hectare) wildfire in northern Texas was blamed for six deaths, including two victims who were trying to escape their burning home, officials said. Four people died Sunday in a multi-vehicle crash on an Interstate highway when the dense smoke reduced visibility, the Texas Forest Service said. Six people were injured. Northeast of Amarillo near the town of Borger, two people died trying to escape a grass fire that consumed their home, fire Capt. Mike Galloway said. The blaze—which rivals in size the fires that blackened thousands of acres of grassland and killed three people in late December and early January—forced the evacuation of eight towns, said Warren Bialenberg, a spokesperson for the Texas Forest Service.

AP

### IN SINK ERATOR

FOOD WASTE DISPOSER  
BOILED WATER DISPENSER  
TRASH COMPACTOR

MADE IN USA  
220V, 60HZ

### CLEAN & EASY

1. Turn on the water
2. Push on the hot food waste disposer
3. Feed in the food waste
4. Turn the disposer and water off

Clean up in today's Modern Kitchen has never been easier.

**GILLESST HOLDINGS, INC.**  
3426 Jose Abad Santos St., Sta. Cruz, Manila  
Tel. 254-8363/64 Fax No. 253-8579  
WARRANTY: SIX MONTHS PARTS & LABOR (PARTS & SERVICE AVAILABLE)

## STUDY HOTEL MANAGEMENT IN SWITZERLAND



Hotel Institute Montreux

Located in the City Centre of Montreux, Switzerland. HIM provides:

- Swiss Diploma in Hotel Management (2 years)
- Swiss Higher Diploma in Hotel Management (2.5 years)
- American Dual BBA Degree in Hotel and Business Management (3 years)
- MBA, Masters in Business Administration (4 years)
- Postgraduate Diplomas for Bachelor Degree holders (1 year)
- Paid internships in Switzerland or overseas
- Affordable fees including tuition and full board



ATTENDANCE IS FREE OF CHARGE

Contact Nette +639159499247  
Bele +639198370259  
bele.oved@gmail.com



Member of ASEM, Swiss Hotel Schools Association



# The WORLD

Editor Luverne B. Gueco

## More questions over Milosevic death

THE HAGUE—AN AUTOPSY HAS CONCLUDED that Slobodan Milosevic died of a heart attack, but his sudden death in UN custody on Saturday has raised intriguing questions, notably what sparked the former Yugoslav strongman's heart attack and where he will be buried.

It was also unknown whether Milosevic's flamboyant widow Mira Markovic would be allowed to travel to The Hague to claim his remains from the International Criminal Tribunal for the Former Yugoslavia (ICTY), where he was on trial for genocide and war crimes.

An autopsy performed Sunday pinpointed "myocardial infarction" as the immediate cause of Milosevic's death, but an ICTY spokesperson said it was "too early" to rule out poisoning, as charged by his entourage—and the ex-president himself in a letter revealed after his death.

Milosevic's legal advisor Zdenko Tomanovic said Sunday that the former strongman had addressed a letter to the Russian foreign ministry saying that he feared he was being

poisoned after receiving a medical report indicating large amounts of a drug for tuberculosis or leprosy in his blood.

"Milosevic pointed out that during the last five years he had never used any such antibiotics, especially since he had never had leprosy or tuberculosis or any kind of infectious disease except for the flu," Tomanovic said.

A Serbian pathologist assisted and two Serbian observers were present at the autopsy.

The heart attack finding put paid to the hypothesis of suicide entertained even by ICTY chief prosecutor Carla del Ponte, who said in an interview published Sunday: "He could have done it as a last act of defiance towards us. Perhaps he did commit suicide."

Earlier she noted: "It's odd, although naturally it is possible, that he died unexpectedly without the doctors noticing that his health had suddenly worsened."

Milosevic's widow Mirjana Markovic, known as Mira, is believed to have been living in Russia since fleeing Serbia in 2003. She has been charged by Belgrade with abuse of her office and there is an international arrest warrant issued in her name.

Markovic had not contacted the Dutch Embassy in Moscow to obtain a visa for The Netherlands as of Sunday afternoon, the Dutch foreign ministry said.

Spokesperson Dirk-Jan Vermeij said in The Hague: "According to the rumors, she is in Moscow which is why we contacted our embassy there."

Serbian President Boris Tadic on Sunday said he would not pardon Markovic, meaning she would be unable to return home for a funeral ceremony if it is held in Serbia.

Markovic, dubbed the Lady Macbeth of the Balkans, was a power behind the throne of her husband but



A SUPPORTER cries as he touches portrait of Milosevic.

faces arrest if she ever again sets foot in Serbia, where she has been indicted on charges of abuse of power.

In an interview published in Serbian newspaper Vecernje Novosti Markovic said that she would prefer Milosevic to be buried in his hometown Pozarevac but added she was a "hostage" to the international arrest warrant against her.

Milosevic's funeral poses a conundrum for Serbian authorities, with his family split over where he should be laid to rest and his widow Markovic risking arrest if she comes home.

Serbian President Boris Tadic on Sunday ruled out a state funeral saying he believed such an observance would be "completely inappropriate"

given Milosevic's role in the bloody Balkans conflicts.

"I have still not decided where my husband will be buried," Markovic told a Serbian newspaper Monday.

"If it was only up to me to decide it would be Pozarevac," a town about 80 km east of Belgrade. But, she said, "I am still the hostage of an Interpol arrest warrant."

AFP

## Bush plans sustained drive against Iran

WASHINGTON—THE ADMINISTRATION OF US President George W. Bush plans for a sustained campaign against the ayatollahs of Tehran that could include regime change, The Washington Post reported Monday.

The newspaper said Bush and his team have been huddling in closed-door meetings on Iran, summoning scholars for advice, creating an Iran office in Washington and opening listening posts abroad dedicated to the efforts against Tehran.

The internal debate that raged in the first term between those who advocated more engagement with Iran and those who preferred more confrontation appears in the second term to be largely settled in favor of the latter, the report said.

Although administration officials do not use the term "regime change" in public, that in effect is the goal they outline as they aim to build resistance to the theocracy, The Post pointed out.

"We do not have a problem with the Iranian people. We want the Iranian people to be free," Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice said in Senate testimony last week. "Our problem is with the Iranian regime."

In private meetings, Bush and his advisers have been more explicit, the paper said.

Members of the Hoover Institution's board of overseers who met with Bush, Vice President Richard Cheney and national security adviser Stephen Hadley two weeks ago emerged with the impression that the administration has shifted to a more robust policy aimed at the Iranian government, according to the Post.

"The message that we received is that they are in favor of separating the Iranian people from the regime," the paper quotes Esmail Amud-Hozouz, an Iranian American businessman who serves on the Hoover board, as saying.

AFP



EXUBERANCE FOR SPRING

Sadhus, or Hindu holy men, celebrate Holi, the festival of colors, in Varanasi, India March 13. The Hindu festival heralds the arrival of spring.

## US newspaper chain agrees to sale

KNIGHT RIDDER, THE SECOND-largest newspaper company in the United States, agreed Sunday night to sell itself for about \$4.5 billion in cash and stock to the McClatchy Co., a publisher half its size, according to people involved in the negotiations.

The deal, which is expected to be

announced Monday, comes as the newspaper industry is gripped by uncertainty as readers across the country have begun to drift away from printed newspapers.

However, the sale could help assuage some investors who are nervous about the values of newspaper

companies because Knight Ridder commanded a premium of about 25 percent for its shares from the time it put itself up for sale in November under pressure from shareholders who were unhappy with performance of its stock. *New York Times News Service*



A SRI LANKAN child is pecked by an African Grey Parrot at a zoo at Dehiwala near Colombo.

## First case of bird flu in Afghanistan

KABUL, AFGHANISTAN—THE first case of bird flu has been detected in Afghanistan and there's a high risk that tests could prove it to be the deadly H5N1 strain of the virus, a UN agency said Monday.

The UN Food and Agriculture Organization said five swab samples from backyard poultry farms in Kabul and the eastern city of Jalalabad tested positive on Monday for H5, and that tests were under way to discern the subtype.

"There's a high risk that the virus

detected is H5N1, but other possibilities remain at this time," an FAO statement issued in Kabul said.

Afghanistan has not reported a case of bird flu before. Last month, the FAO warned that an outbreak was virtually unavoidable and chided the government and donor nations for being slow to prevent it.

The H5N1 strain of bird flu has killed or forced the slaughter of tens of millions of chickens and ducks across Asia since 2003, and

recently spread to Europe, Africa and the Middle East. Health officials fear H5N1 could evolve into a virus that can be transmitted easily between people and become a global pandemic.

That has not happened yet, but at least 97 people have died from the disease worldwide, two-thirds of them in Indonesia and Vietnam, according to figures by the World Health Organization.

Dr. Azizullah Esmom, director of the husbandry and veterinary de-

partment of the Afghan agriculture ministry, said the tests on the five samples from Afghanistan were underway at an FAO laboratory in Italy. He expected results within 48 hours to determine whether or not H5N1 was present.

The FAO statement said the bird flu samples tested were "associated with high mortality" and the results so far indicated "that a highly pathogenic avian influenza has been detected at more than one site in Afghanistan."

AP

DON'T MISS  
YOUR COPY!



CALL THE INQUIRER CUSTOMER SERVICE HOTLINE

896-6000



## SPORTS

Editor Teddyvic S. Melendres

Text us your feedback: inquirer.sport@inquirer.com.ph or 2207 (Globe) or 283 (Smart) E-mail: pr\_sports@inquirer.com.ph



**WHAT'S INSIDE**  
**■ 2nd Caddies Open**  
**fires off today /A20**  
**■ Right start for**  
**Sorenstam /A21**



**■ Federer advances /A21**  
**■ Wade applies Heat**  
**to cool down Cavs /A21**  
**■ Catameo, Dizon big**  
**off-road winners /A22**



# Cage body up for POC scrutiny



By Marc Anthony Reyes

## CAN PHILIPPINE BASKETBALL make it to the Doha Asian Games in December?

The question lingered yesterday even after the country's basketball stakeholders expressed optimism the draft of the constitution and by-laws of the new cage body will get the nod of the Philippine Olympic Committee.

Philippine Basketball League commissioner Chino Trinidad said the stakeholders are confident of getting the approval of a separate committee tasked by the POC to scrutinize the charter of the group which will be simply called "Pilipinas Basketball."

"It may not be perfect, but I'm sure everybody will be satisfied," Trinidad said. "This is the result of two months of hard work."

The stakeholders will submit the new charter tomorrow, just in time for the deadline set by the POC. The local Olympic body will then

polish it to adhere to the conditions of the Fiba, the international basketball federation.

Fiba has given the Philippines until the end of this month to create a new body that will involve all the sport's major stakeholders such as the PBA, PBL, NCAA and UAAP.

However, POC spokesman Joey Romasanta said the copy of the by-laws will still have to be scrutinized by the executive council during its meeting tomorrow at the Cafe J in Makati.

"I don't want to make a comment," Romasanta told the INQUIRER in an overseas call from

Malaysia. "I haven't seen the draft of the constitution."

The Basketball Association of the Philippines was expelled by the POC last year.

The POC-inspired Philippine Basketball Federation, however, failed to get the sanction of the Fiba and the country lost the right to host the sport during the 23rd Southeast Asian Games last December.

Unless the Fiba ban is lifted, the country cannot compete in all international events, including the Asian Games this December.

## La Salle to nix total ban from UAAP events

By Jasmine W. Payo

WHILE DE LA SALLE UNIVERSITY awaits the verdict of the UAAP on the eligibility scandal that rocked the multicolored Green Archers, school officials plan to nix a move to stop all sports in the league.

In a recent meeting with the university's team managers, executive vice president Dr. Carmelita Quebengco reportedly said she could "not allow the innocent athletes to suffer the penalty for the (action of a) few bad seeds."

La Salle filed last Jan. 23 a one-year leave of absence—only from the men's basketball tournament—in a bid to rebuild its cage program.

Two weeks later, the UAAP board turned down La Salle's proposal, saying basketball is one of two compulsory sports in the league.

The board noted, however, that La Salle may still take a break from the league next season, and if it does so, it must file a leave of absence from all 14 sports.

In the same meeting, officials stressed that La Salle should continue its clean-up drive. The institution admitted last October that it un-

knowingly fielded two ineligible players—Mark Benitez and Tim Garchalian—in the last three seasons.

Sources said Quebengco "expressed her full support for sports development, since it is an integral part of education."

The same sources said Quebengco wants the university to maintain its "long-term vision" of "having the best sports program in the country."

The league's fact-finding committee announced during the last meeting that its decision and recommendation on the La Salle eligibility scandal will be out this month.

The five-man panel, sources added, had already interviewed several La Salle officials, including Quebengco and sports development head Bro. Bobby Casungal, FSC.

The committee had also summoned assistant team manager Manny Salgado and statistician Raul Lacson, who were tagged by La Salle as the officials who helped secure the players' false records.

Benitez and Garchalian submitted fake certificates of their Philippine Educational Placement Test, an exam taken in lieu of a high school diploma, to gain entry in college.



PERFECT: All Peek puts up a shot against the Aces.

## Caguioa, Peek share RP Cup scoring honors

BARANGAY GINEBRA'S MARK Caguioa and Coca-Cola's All Peek are like polar opposites who have something in common.

For one, Caguioa is a glib talker while Peek is a man of few words.

Both, though, are driven by the same passion which proved crucial for their respective teams in the first week of the Philippine Cup.

The defending champion Gin Kings and the Tigers are on top of the heap with identical 2-0 win-loss slates mainly due to Caguioa and Peek, who were unanimous choices as the PBA Press Corps' Gran Matador Co-Players of the Week for the period March 5-12.

Caguioa opened the Kings' title-retention bid by pouring in a tournament-high 39 points in a 98-81 win over Talk 'N Text last Wednesday. He followed that up with 23 points and 10 rebounds in their come-from-behind 98-93 victory over Sta. Lucia Realty last Sunday.

It is not by sheer coincidence that Caguioa is putting up such big numbers. He has to live up to a promise made before a nationwide television audience.

"We will walk without clothes in [Manila's] Baywalk area if we don't win the championship," Caguioa declared in a pre-tournament TV primer by ABC-5.

Peek, on the other hand, proved a consistent scorer after Coca-Cola coach Binky Favis urged him to watch an edited tape of the player's shots in the season-opening Fiesta Conference.

"It (the tape) showed what kind of shots I was missing and the ones that went in," Peek recalled. "So I tried to work harder on my shots since then."

Still, nobody expected him to come up with a perfect shooting



BIG games by Mark Caguioa

night from the field last Friday, east of all himself.

"I was not thinking about it," said the Hawaii-born center after scoring a game-high 27 points—marked by a perfect 12-for-12 shooting from the perimeter—in the Tigers' 81-69 win over Alaska last Friday.

The awe-inspiring offensive show actually improved Peek's previous all-time record by one shot. He set the previous mark of 11 attempts without a miss on Aug. 1, 2001 while still playing, ironically, for Alaska.

Peek, who registered 21 points and 11 rebounds in a 104-83 win over Air 21 last Sunday, was not particularly conscious of the record. Still, other people reminded him about it.

"[TV courtside reporter] Jason Webb told me about it during the halftime break and during the third quarter (Alaska's) Nic Belasco asked me, 'When are you going to miss, man?'" Peek said.

"I'm just happy we came out with a win," he added.



VITORIA

## Vitoria gets Elorde Golden Belt award

BRIAN VITORIA, THE REIGNING World Boxing Council light fly-weight champion, will be honored with the Flash Elorde Golden Belt award during the sixth Banquet of Champions of the Gabriel "Flash" Elorde Memorial Awards on March 25 at the Dusit Hotel Nikko.

Vitoria, 25, will be the first boxer to receive the award after he won the WBC title from Eric Ortiz in September

last year and defended it against Jose Antonio Aguizure in Las Vegas last month.

Laura Elorde, widow of the late Flash Elorde, in whose honor the Elorde Awards are presented, said the golden belt is an exact replica of the belt Elorde received for winning the world junior lightweight championship in 1960.

Vitoria, called the Hawaiian Punch and more recently the Pinoy Punch, is a

Hawaii-based boxer who traces his roots to Narvacan, Ilocos Sur.

The latest Filipino boxing sensation will join Manny Pacquiao, who will receive boxing's highest honor as Boxer of the Year awardee during the awards rites, presented by the Gabriel "Flash" Elorde Foundation to honor outstanding boxers in memory of the great legend himself, who reigned as junior lightweight from 1960-1967.



Drive your Dream  
 AUTO LOAN

## Dream Car No, Text No

Applying for your new car is now a text message away!

Key in AUTO+space+your full name+space+your landline number+space+city or province  
 example: "AUTO Manny Gomez 8456777 Makati City"  
 send it to 0917-89100-00 and we will get started on your Auto Loan application.

No time wasted. Waiting hassle. Super-bills and application.

For more information, call the Auto Loans Direct Marketing hotline at 8456777 during office hours or 89-100 (24/7).



BFI FAMILY SAVINGS BANK  
 Get started on tomorrow.



## Rare PBA treat for Hong Kong OFWs Sunday

A WARM WELCOME AWAITS THE PHILIPPINE Basketball Association (PBA) when it takes its act to Hong Kong this Sunday.

League coordinators in the former British territory said thousands of overseas Filipino workers there are eagerly looking forward to the Purefoods-Talk 'N Text match on March 19, marking the PBA's first official overseas game in the Gran Matador Brandy-Philippine Cup.

The lone game to be played at the Queen Elizabeth Stadium is made possible by Talk 'N Text owner Manny V. Pangilinan through Smart Global, and with the support of Magic Sing and Cebu Pacific as official carriers.

Game tickets have been in demand since the league confirmed the holding the PBA duel in Hong Kong last month, the coordinator said.

"This is our way of thanking our thousands of OFW fans in Hong Kong," said commissioner Noli Eala. "We're bringing to them no less than the exciting brand of basketball the PBA is known for."

"The endeavor would not have been possible without the help and effort extended by Mr. Pangilinan. We thank him for all his support."

The Hong Kong sojourn is the second official overseas game for the league in two years.

In last year's Fiesta Conference, Talk 'N Text battled Formula Shell before a jam-packed crowd in Jakarta, Indonesia, with the Phone Pals emerging a 97-88 winner.

## The Tita Eggie way

TWENTY YEARS AFTER EDSA '86, the Philippine Basketball Association is as strong as ever.

Twenty years after Edsa '86, basketball is still the country's No. 1 sport.

And, yes, 20 years after Edsa '86, corruption corrodes, creeps on virtually all spheres of government, if not our society itself.

The PBA is as strong as ever because the league has, like San Miguel Corp., become an institution. It is an institution because the league's founders led by, among others, Leo Prieto and Rudy Salud, had willed it so. It is an institution because the league's present leaders continue to will it so. No group, no company, no association can last a generation without its founder(s) having the will to make it so. No group, no company, no association can exist beyond a generation without its succeeding leader(s) having the will to make it so. One generation is 20 years or so.

The PBA is 31 years old. It can go another 31 years again without encountering a major hitch if only its present leaders stick to their guns. Take it from Manny V. Pangilinan: There's no real formula for success. Only the old formula, which is living by the code words of traditional rules. With just a little imagination, the old formula can be improved minus earth-shaking innovations.

Nothing really changes. Only people change.

The world is round and it will be that way till the end of time.

Robert Jaworski used to be a legend on the hard court. Not anymore, as one does not last forever. He is now a Living Legend, only memories of his basketball exploits remain.

Basketball will stay No. 1 with us if we say so. If we change, basketball will cease to be No. 1.

People change, not things, objects, institutions.

The barber dies but not the barber shop.

The priest dies but not the church.

The mayor dies but not the town hall.

The gardener dies but not the town plaza.

The President dies but not the Palace.

### SPECTATOR

Al S. Mendoza



In light banter, people change either from good to bad or from bad to good—or even from bad to worse.

Twenty years after Edsa '86, nothing's changed, ethics-wise, values-wise.

Corruption is virtually everywhere. We break laws, including the simplest traffic laws. We bribe and the bribed considers the act normal. We heed not our elders anymore if it foils our chance to earn more money. We disregard chivalry as though that seat in the bus is a matter of life and death.

We accept a government that is not people-friendly because it doesn't affect us directly anyways.

Twenty years after Edsa '86, those born in 1986 still grope in the dark, mired in societal misery. Again, that's one generation lost as their values are as unchanged as the values of the very people who were ahead of them. Again, that's one generation lost as their ethics are as misshapen as the ethics of the very people who were ahead of them.

Yes, we ought to join Eugenia "Tita Eggie" Duran-Apostol's "Education Revolution."

Listen, had we initiated a revolution in education in 1986 by introducing a school curriculum anchored on values, ethics and decent and honest governance beginning with the school year 1986-87, we would have produced a new breed of Filipinos one generation later, a generation steeped in honesty and fairness and service-oriented to the people.

Perhaps, 20 years after Edsa '86, age-cheating in sports—still very rampant, I tell you—might now have become a thing of the past.

Yes, Tita Eggie. Let's mentor the mentors. Let's begin by teaching them how to score a basketball game the proper way. And the proper way is to add the points correctly, from the first whistle to the last buzzer. Prrrrt!

Comments to [menju@pldtdsl.net](mailto:menju@pldtdsl.net)

# 2nd National Caddies Open fires off today

By Musong R. Castillo

CALATAGAN, BATANGAS—ONE hundred two entries, some of them representing previously unheard of golf courses, tee off today for the second National Caddies' Open in this tough tree-lined layout.

The top three players at the end of the 72-hole tournament scheduled over three courses will enter the long-term NCO program designed to transform them into future amateur stars.

Participants who hail from as far south as Sarangani in Mindanao and from Baguio in the north will try to break the domination of Davao betis in this event supported by San Miguel Corp., Pagcor and the Philippine Sports Commission.

Jonel Ababa and brothers Joseph and Mario Labayo booked the top three places in the initial staging of the tourney last year. All three caddied at Apo Golf in Davao.

First Gentleman Jose Miguel "Mike" Arroyo, Commission on Elections chair Ben Abalos and sportsman Hermie Esguerra officially opened the tournament yesterday together with Juvic Pagunsan, one of the country's most successful caddies in recent times.

"A program like this does not come very often," Arroyo told the caddies in Pilipino before hitting one of three ceremonial drives. "Make the most out of this opportunity."

The event was started last year to



TOURNAMENT co-chair Hermie Esguerra hits one of three ceremonial drives opening the National Caddies Open yesterday at Calatagan. From left, co-chair Ben Abalos, First Gentleman Mike Arroyo, Tommy Manotoc and Calatagan's Dave Hernandez.

contribute to the development of amateur golf and to produce a future member of the Philippine team.

Canibang, which will be the site of the third round on Thursday, was the first to make a gamble on the products of the program. With four of the NCO standouts, the Sugar Barons won the recent Philippine

Airlines Interclub last month.

"We hope to be able to discover talents as good or even better than Jonel (in this tournament)," Esguerra, who shares the NCO chairmanship with Abalos, said. "There's no greater joy in being able to help produce champions."

The field, limited to players 25

years and younger, sampled the Robert Trent Jones Jr.-designed course in Calatagan, host of the first 36 holes today and tomorrow.

Under the stringent format which will have cuts in each round, only the top 20 scores and ties will advance to the final 18 holes scheduled at Wack Wack East on Friday.

BY K. AMARAS



Development Bank of the Philippines

### INVITATION TO APPLY FOR ELIGIBILITY AND TO BID

The Development Bank of the Philippines is inviting interested bidders to apply for eligibility and to bid for

PROJECT	APPROVED BUDGET FOR THE CONTRACT
Hiring of Services of an Event Agency/ Communications Outfit to handle the DBP SLDP Logistics Race Promotions Program to boost tourism through the use of the country's Road Roll-on Roll-off (RoRo) Terminal System	P 3,000,000.00
	SOURCE OF FUND: DBP FUNDS

\*Bids received in excess of the Approved Budget for the Contract (ABC) shall be automatically rejected at Bid Opening.

Contract Begins: May 2006  
Schedule of Activities:

Particulars	Date	Venue
Submission and Opening of Letter of Intent (LOI) and Eligibility Requirement Documents (Prospective Bidders are encouraged to attend the Opening of Eligibility Requirements Documents)	"On or before" 9:00 a.m. of March 27, 2006 (Monday)	BAC Secretariat, 6th Floor, DBP Building, Makati City
Issuance of Bid Data Sheet/Terms of Reference	March 28-29, 2006	BAC Secretariat, 6th Floor, DBP Building, Makati City
Pre-Bidding Conference	March 29, 2006 (Wednesday) at 9:00 a.m.	OPS Conference Room, 6th Floor, DBP Building, Makati City
Submission of Technical Proposal and Financial Proposal of Eligible Consultants/Bidders	"On or before" 9:00 a.m. of April 10, 2006 (Monday)	BAC Secretariat, 6th Floor, DBP Building, Makati City
Opening of Technical Proposal (Eligible Bidders are encouraged to attend the Opening of Technical Proposals)	April 10, 2006 (Monday) at 9:30 a.m.	OPS Conference Room, 6th Floor, DBP Building, Makati City

Bidding will be conducted through open competitive bidding procedures as specified in the IRR-A of R.A. 9184, and is restricted to Filipino citizens or organizations with at least sixty percent (60%) interest belonging to citizens of the Philippines. The process for the eligibility check is described in the Eligibility Documents. Only those that are eligible will be allowed to submit bids.

The contract will only be awarded to the Highest Rated and Responsive Bidder who was determined as such during the post-qualification. Interested parties may secure the Eligibility Requirement Forms from the BAC Secretariat, 6th Floor, DBP Building, Makati City or you may download these forms at [www.devbankphil.com.ph](http://www.devbankphil.com.ph) and at the Electronic Procurement Service of the Department of Budget and Management. A non-refundable fee of P1,000.00 will be charged to all eligible bidders. Quality Based Evaluation/Selection (QBE/QBS) method of evaluation will be used in the evaluation of proposals. The criteria and rating for the evaluation of bids shall be provided in the Terms of Reference (TOR).

The Bank reserves the right to reject any and all bids, annul the bidding process, or not award the contract at any time prior to contract award, without thereby incurring any liability to the affected bidder or bidders.

For further inquiries, please call telephone numbers 8125702 / 8189511 loc. 2510.

Bids and Awards Committee

(PD)-March 14 & 20, 2006

## Call Center exec golf slated at Midlands

A TOYOTA INNOVA AND A NISSAN Sentra will be up for grabs as hole-in-one prizes in the much-awaited Call Center Executive Golf Challenge 2, an 18-hole tournament staged by Contact Center Association of the Philippines on Monday at the Tagaytay Midlands Golf Club.

Top executives of the booming call-

center industry are joining the tournament which has Plantronics as the title sponsor and with Avaya and PLDT Business Solutions as co-presenters.

The organizing CCAAP has invited a hundred or so guests, mostly from its member companies, to answer the shotgun tee-off set at 9 a.m. Registration starts at 7 a.m.

There will be individual and team competitions in the tourney which is strictly invitational. The team event will feature participating call centers and their designated players.

For inquiries, call 886-4407 or 889-7763, or email [admin@mediafocus.com.ph/dlmediafocus@yahoo.com](mailto:admin@mediafocus.com.ph/dlmediafocus@yahoo.com).



Republic of the Philippines  
Province of Southern Leyte  
**CITY OF MAASIN**  
Bids and Awards Committee

### INVITATION TO APPLY FOR ELIGIBILITY AND TO BID

- The City Government of Maasin through its Bids and Awards Committee (BAC) invites all interested suppliers, dealers, distributors and contractors to apply for eligibility and to submit bids for the Supply and delivery of three (3) units LK mobile flash dryer (LK-12FD) w/ 7HP diesel engine and four (4) units LK thresher-husker-sheller combined (LK-150) w/ 7HP diesel engine with an Approved Budget of the Contract of two million eight hundred ten pesos, Philippine currency (Php2,810,000.00).
- The Bids and Awards Committee will hold a Pre-bid Conference on Thursday, March 16, 2006 at ten o'clock in the morning at the City Conference Room, City Hall, Maasin City.
- Interested bidders may obtain a complete set of bidding documents from March 9 to 27, 2006 upon payment of a non-refundable fee of 0.1% of the Approved Budget of the Contract to the City Treasury Services, Maasin City.
- Deadline for the submission applications for eligibility to bid and bid proposals shall be on Tuesday, March 28, 2006 at ten o'clock in the morning at the City Conference Room, City Hall, Maasin City. Immediately after the deadline, applications for eligibility and bid proposals will be opened in the presence of the bidder's representatives.
- The Eligibility Check/Screening as well as Preliminary Examination of Bids shall use the non-discretionary "pass/fail" criteria. Post-qualification of the lowest calculated bid shall be conducted. All particulars relative to the Eligibility Statement and Screening, Bid Security, Pre-Bidding Conference, evaluation of bids, Post-Qualification and Award of Contract shall be governed by the pertinent provisions of RA No. 9184 and its Implementing Rules and Regulations.
- The City Government of Maasin assumes no responsibility whatsoever to compensate and indemnify bidders for any expenses incurred in the preparation of bid. The Bids and Awards Committee of the City of Maasin reserves the right to reject any or all bids, to waive any defects or formality therein and to accept bids considered complying and most advantageous to the government.
- For more information, please contact the BAC Secretariat at telephone numbers 570-8608 or 570-8824.

(Sgd.) CRISPIN M. ARONG, JR.  
Chairman

(PD) March 9 & 14, 2006

## SPORTSWATCH

### More BEST classes bared

MILQ BEST CENTER'S SUMMER BASKETBALL Program will be held Wednesdays and Saturdays in three separate venues—San Beda College-Manila, Notre Dame of Greater Manila and Jose Rizal University. Classes will start on April 5 and end on April 29. Milq BEST Center has also scheduled advanced enrollment for various venues at Aleneo College covered courts (9 to 11 a.m.) and Notre Dame (1 to 3 p.m.) on March 18, Nestlé Alabang (9:30 to 11:30) on March 26 and SBC-Manila (during office hours).

### Executive, ladies chess set

REGISTRATION FOR THE MCC EXECUTIVE 1950-below and Ladies Open active chess tournaments is now ongoing at the second floor of St. Francis Square at the corner of Dona Julia Vargas and Bank Drive (behind SM Megamall) in Mandaluyong City. The executive event, which kicks off this Saturday, is open to all businessmen, professionals and those holding supervisory or managerial positions in private and government firms. The ladies event is set on Sunday. Special awards will be given to the best unrated player and best school performers. For inquiries, call 828-8560, 0915-852-1069 or 0922-539-7392.

### 60 fights at Big Dome today

SIXTY FIGHTS ARE SCHEDULED TODAY AS THE "For Team Philippines 5-Cock Derby" sizes at 5 p.m. at the Araneta Coliseum. Part of the derby proceeds will be given to national athletes, according to derby host Jose "Peping" Coljuaingo, president of the Philippine Olympic Committee (POC). A participant is required to field straight five cocks on either the first or second day. A guaranteed prize of P500,000 is allotted for each day of competition.

### Largahan derby resumes

THE SECOND ROUND OF THE LARGAHAN 5-COCK Derby at Roligon Mega Cockpit starts at 2 p.m. today with more than 100 matches on tap. Twenty-nine cockers and breeders posted two wins each in Saturday's opening round of the derby that lured 348 entries. They will compete on March 18 for the title. Host Roligon has put up a jackpot prize of P2 million, for an entry fee of only P4,400, plus a Toyota Vios bonus prize for the fastest win champion. Meanwhile, the championship round of National Cockers Association (NCA) 7-cock derby blasts off tomorrow at the same venue. For inquiries, call 851-2275, 833-1638 or 852-8812. Derby sponsors are Lakpue Drug Inc. and Thunderbird Enartons.



TUESDAY, MARCH 14, 2006

## Top seeds romp in Indian Wells

INDIAN WELLS—IT WAS A HOT day for the top seeds on a cold, windy Sunday at the Pacific Life Open.

The men's leading trio of Roger Federer, Rafael Nadal and Andy Roddick all won their opening matches, while women's number one seed Justine Henin-Hardenne, number two Lindsay Davenport and number three Maria Sharapova also scored victories.

Top-ranked Federer fought off Chile's Nicolas Pietrangeli, 6-3, 7-6, in the second round, while Nadal posted a 6-4, 6-4 win over Czech Jan Hernych.

Third seed Roddick battled past Argentine Jose Acasuso, 7-6, 6-0.

The 19-year-old Nadal, who beat Federer to win the title in Dubai in his last tournament, struggled with the wind but was too consistent for his opponent on the day.

Eighth seed Andre Agassi lost control of his temper in the second set but then won the final six games in a 6-4, 4-6, 6-2 victory

over Paul Goldstein.

Britain's great teenage hope fell, however, Andy Murray losing 6-1, 3-6, 6-3, to fifth seed Nikolay Davydenko of Russia.

In women's action, Henin-Hardenne advanced, making quick work of Tsvetana Pironkova, 6-2, 6-2, while Sharapova registered a 6-4, 6-0 win over Lisa Raymond. Martina Hingis beat Austria's Sybille Bammer, 6-0, 6-3. *Reuters*

ROGER Federer kicks the ball after he hit it into the net against Nicolas Pietrangeli.

REUTERS

## Wade applies Heat to cool down Cavs

NEW YORK—DWYANE WADE HAD 35 points, nine rebounds and seven assists as the Miami Heat rallied to beat the Cleveland Cavaliers, 98-92, on Sunday in Florida, overshadowing another brilliant individual effort from LeBron James.

James poured in a game-high 47 points, including 20 in the fourth quarter, and pulled down seven rebounds but the Cavaliers were unable to hold the lead down the stretch suffering their second straight defeat after winning four in

Zydrunas Ilgauskas had 21 points

and six boards for Cleveland but was the only other Cavalier to hit double figures.

Shaquille O'Neal contributed 18 points to Miami's cause while Alonzo Mourning came off the bench to add 16 points and eight boards as the red-hot Heat registered their 11th win in 12 games.

Trailing 72-65 entering the final quarter, the Heat surged in front behind a 10-2 run capped by a Gary Payton three-pointer to take their first lead of the game.

After James answered with a three-pointer to put the Cavaliers momen-

tarily back in front, the Heat went on another 9-0 run keyed by six points from Mourning to take control 84-77.

Cleveland would get back to within 92-90 but would not get closer. *Reuters*

Complete results: Miami 98, Cleveland 92; San Antonio 88, Houston 81, Seattle 120, LA Lakers 113; Philadelphia 94, Memphis 91, Boston 106, Denver 101, Toronto 93, Indiana 89; Detroit 94, Charlotte 78; New Jersey 95, New Orleans 84; Portland 111, Phoenix 101, Sacramento 85, Dallas 80. *AP*

SOLAR Sports will air the Minnesota-LA Clippers tussle at 11:30 a.m. today with a replay at 8 p.m.

## Donald eyes majors

MIAMI—BRITAIN'S LUKE DONALD turned his thoughts toward the majors after winning his second PGA Tour title by two shots at the Honda Classic in Palm Beach Gardens, Florida on Sunday. "This is a big step. It's definitely a step in the right direction," the 28-year-old Englishman told reporters after holding off

Australia's Geoff Ogilvy with a three-under-par 69 on Mirasol's Sunrise Course. "The next goal is to win the majors. Do I think I can win majors? Absolutely. I think I have a great game for majors. I'm very steady, and that's the main reason why I think, if I keep playing the way I'm playing, I'll win." *Reuters*

## Annika starts season right

HUIXQUILUCAN, MEXICO—ANNIKA Sorenstam had three birdies on the back nine and finished with a 2-under 70 Sunday to win her first LPGA Tour event of the year by one stroke at the MasterCard Classic.

The top-ranked female golfer, who also won this tournament a year ago, was at even par and tied for the lead after the first nine holes. But she reeled off three birdies in four holes to take the tournament with an 8-under 208 total.

On the 18th hole, the Swede missed a short putt for par but tapped in to take the victory. It was the 21st time the 35-year-old Sorenstam has successfully defended a tournament title.

Last year, Sorenstam also won in Mexico to start her season. *AP*

## US posts controversial win over Japan

ANAHEIM, CALIFORNIA—ALEX RODRIGUEZ came through with the winning hit for the United States after Japan appeared to get the short end of a controversial call.

Rodriguez hit a bases-loaded, two-out single in the ninth Sunday to give Team USA a 4-3 victory in the opener of Round 2 in the inaugural World Baseball Classic.

Vernon Wells opened the ninth with his third hit, and Randy Winn sacrificed, but reached first when second baseman Tsuyoshi Nishioka drew an error for coming off the base while catching third baseman Akinori Iwamura's throw.

Loser Kyuji Fujikawa threw out Wells at third on Michael Young's attempted sacrifice, and Derek Jeter was hit by a

pitch to load the bases.

Japan appeared to take a 4-3 lead off Joe Nathan in the eighth when Iwamura flied to left with one out and the bases loaded. Nishioka beat Winn's throw home, and second base umpire Brian Knight ruled safe when Team USA appealed the play. But plate umpire Bob Davidson overruled the call following a

brief discussion with the other umpires.

It didn't seem Nishioka left early on the television replay, and Japan manager Sadaharu Oh argued to no avail.

In San Juan, Puerto Rico, Omar Vizquel missed a double play opportunity and gave up an additional out on a fielder's choice, as Cuba beat Venezuela, 7-2. *AP*

**Winston**  
Spirit of the U.S.A.

Winston Lights Winston

Enjoy True Quality

**Government Warning:**  
Cigarette smoking is dangerous to your health.



# Gorres Thai foe due today

THAILAND'S WAENPETCH CHUWATANA arrives tonight in Cebu for his date with Mandaue's Z "The Dream" Gorres for the vacant Oriental and Pacific Boxing Federation super flyweight title this Saturday at the Mandaue City Sports and Cultural Complex.

The Bangkok-based Chuwatana, the former OPBF titleholder, arrives on PAL flight PR 855 with Thai judge Pinut Prayadsab, his trainer and his manager.

Gorres and Chuwatana are set to meet for the first time when they appear with international

promoter Sammy Gello-ani at the SOOOP Forum hosted by Bobby Inoferio starting at 11:30 a.m. Thursday at the Baseline Restaurant in Cebu City.

The two protagonists will answer queries from the media in the forum sponsored by Penrex.

In other fights, WBO Asia Pacific super featherweight champ Cesar Amosot battles Thai Dechao Bankluaygym, AJ Banal goes up against another Thai, Dechapol Bankluaygym, and Rocky Fuentes of the ALA stable tangles with Wakee Salud-protege Jojo Bardon for the vacant RP flyweight title. *Salven L. Lagumbay, contributor*



THREE-EVENT champion Noel Dizon negotiates the quagmire during the Puerto Princesa City 4x4 races Sunday.

## DBP

Development Bank of the Philippines

### INVITATION TO BID

The Development Bank of the Philippines will receive sealed bids on March 25, 2006 at 10:30 a.m., Suite 4, 12th Floor, DBP Head Office, San Gil Pagar Rd., Makati Ave., Makati City for the following properties on CASH BASIS:

CODE NO.	DESCRIPTION	AREA (sq.m.)	LOCATION	Minimum Bid
<b>METRO MANILA</b>				
AM-JA-014	Residential Commercial lot (TCT No. 264424) w/ bldg.	463.1	Along M.V. de los Santos St. near University of Manila, Sampaloc, Manila	P 2,730,000.00
AM-JA-015	Industrial lot (TCT No. 165000) w/ warehouse bldg.	2,000	Bo. San Antonio, Parangue City, Cebu	P 120,000.00
AM-JA-016	2-subdivided residential lots (TCT No. 281530) w/ bldg.	534.4	Carmen San Gregorio and Paz Streets, Pao	P 1,000,000.00
AM-JA-017	Residential lot (TCT No. 221770) w/ bldg.	200	Brig. Pio Del Pilar, Alibon	P 1,000,000.00
AM-ED-018	Residential lot (TCT No. 148277) w/ bldg.	340	Wage (I) Palangin City	P 1,000,000.00
AM-ML-019	Residential lot (TCT No. 148277) w/ bldg.	295	No. 162 San Ignacio St., Brgy. Placeron, Marikina City	P 1,000,000.00
AM-ML-020	House & lot (TCT No. 245737)	200	Alcorcon St., Sta. Mesa	P 2,101,400.00
STR-ERN	House & lot (TCT No. 225472)	270	No. 2 Bulevar St., Rancho Estate (N-E), Brgy. Concepcion, Marikina City	P 1,563,500.00
AM-ML-020	Residential lot (TCT No. C-300002)	338	San Roque, Marikina	P 465,000.00
AM-ED-021	House & lot (TCT No. T-225043)	100	Sa. Monica Homes, Marikina, Marikina	P 212,000.00
AM-ED-022	House & lot (TCT No. T-225043)	50	Lot 45 Bldg. 9	P 151,200.00
AM-ED-023	House & lot (TCT No. T-225043)	50	Lot 18 Bldg. 20	P 125,400.00
AM-ED-024	House & lot (TCT No. T-225043)	50	Lot 11 Bldg. 8	P 120,000.00
AM-ED-025	House & lot (TCT No. T-225043)	50	Lot 6 Bldg. 9	P 120,000.00
AM-ED-026	House & lot (TCT No. T-225043)	50	Lot 12 Bldg. 9	P 120,000.00
AM-ED-027	House & lot (TCT No. T-225043)	50	Lot 14 Bldg. 20	P 118,500.00
AM-ED-028	House & lot (TCT No. T-225043)	50	Lot 8 Bldg. 8	P 111,900.00
<b>BATANGAS</b>				
AM-ML-029	4-subdivided lots (TCT No. T-118006, 118007, 118010, and 118011)	38,248	Mesa, Rosales	P 4,964,000.00
STR-ERN	Residential lot (TCT No. T-118012)	190	Cherryland St., Carmen Woods Residential Subd. and Resort, Brgy. San Gregorio, Laurel	P 2,400,000.00
AM-JA-030	Vacant lot (TCT No. T-53004)	350	D. Sibang St., Potenciano	P 2,467,000.00
AM-JA-031	2-subdivided residential lots (TCT No. T-105034, 105035) w/ bldg.	517	Fortune Village, Brgy. Poblacion, Tayasan	P 1,541,000.00
AM-MC-032	Agro-industrial lot (TCT No. T-127200) w/ bldg.	4,545	Lot 11 Bldg. 3, Lumbay, Lumbay	P 1,000,000.00
AM-ML-033	House & lot (TCT No. T-80533)	325	No. 228, Lumbay, Lumbay	P 854,400.00
AM-ML-034	House & lot (TCT No. T-141054)	60	Barney Bldg., Lumbay	P 100,000.00
<b>BULACAN</b>				
AM-PY-035	3-parcels of agricultural lot (TCT No. T-102317, T-102318, T-102319) w/ bldg.	21,323	Brig. Mating Tubig, Baling	P 12,137,400.00
AM-CP-036	Commercial residential lot (TCT No. T-118033) w/ bldg.	2,969	Tubid St., Poblacion, Bales	P 8,334,000.00
AM-CP-037	Industrial lot (TCT No. T-105004) w/ bldg.	2,563	Lot 4-C, Bldg. 1, New York & Atlanta Sts., Marikina City	P 282,500.00
AM-MC-038	Industrial lot (TCT No. 644211)	1,276	Lot 10 Bldg. 5, No. 5148 San Gregorio St., Brgy. I. De Leon, Valenzuela City	P 336,300.00
AM-ML-039	House and lot (TCT No. V-77212)	780	Lot 10 Bldg. 5, No. 5148 San Gregorio St., Brgy. I. De Leon, Valenzuela City	P 336,300.00
AM-MC-040	Residential lot (TCT No. T-540770) w/ shop	150	Lot 10 Bldg. 5, No. 5148 San Gregorio St., Brgy. I. De Leon, Valenzuela City	P 336,300.00
AM-PY-041	2-parcels of agricultural lot (TCT No. T-102317, T-102318, T-102319) w/ bldg.	2,969	Lot 10 Bldg. 5, No. 5148 San Gregorio St., Brgy. I. De Leon, Valenzuela City	P 336,300.00
AM-TR-042	House and lot (TCT No. T-105032)	46	Lot 1 Bldg. 1	P 124,500.00
AM-TR-043	House and lot (TCT No. T-105032)	43	Lot 18 Bldg. 1	P 124,500.00
AM-MR-044	House and lot (TCT No. T-105032)	40	Lot 5 Bldg. 1	P 124,500.00
<b>CAVITE</b>				
AM-MR-045	House & lot (TCT No. T-110100)	32	Lot 20 Bldg. 11	P 223,000.00
AM-CP-046	House & lot (TCT No. T-110100)	32	Lot 3 Bldg. 11	P 177,000.00
AM-CP-047	House & lot (TCT No. T-110100)	32	Lot 4 Bldg. 11	P 177,000.00
AM-CP-048	House & lot (TCT No. T-110100)	32	Lot 7 Bldg. 11	P 177,000.00
AM-CP-049	House & lot (TCT No. T-110100)	32	Lot 25 Bldg. 11	P 177,000.00
AM-CP-050	House & lot (TCT No. T-110100)	32	Lot 6 Bldg. 11	P 177,000.00
AM-MC-051	House & lot (TCT No. T-110100)	32	Lot 8 Bldg. 11	P 177,000.00
AM-MC-052	House & lot (TCT No. T-110100)	32	Lot 43 Bldg. 11	P 177,000.00
AM-TR-053	House & lot (TCT No. T-110100)	32	Lot 25 Bldg. 11	P 177,000.00
AM-TR-054	House & lot (TCT No. T-110100)	32	Lot 7 Bldg. 11	P 177,000.00
AM-TR-055	House & lot (TCT No. T-110100)	32	Lot 25 Bldg. 11	P 177,000.00
AM-TR-056	House & lot (TCT No. T-110100)	32	Lot 7 Bldg. 11	P 177,000.00
AM-TR-057	House & lot (TCT No. T-110100)	32	Lot 25 Bldg. 11	P 177,000.00
AM-TR-058	House & lot (TCT No. T-110100)	32	Lot 7 Bldg. 11	P 177,000.00
AM-TR-059	House & lot (TCT No. T-110100)	32	Lot 25 Bldg. 11	P 177,000.00
AM-TR-060	House & lot (TCT No. T-110100)	32	Lot 7 Bldg. 11	P 177,000.00
AM-TR-061	House & lot (TCT No. T-110100)	32	Lot 25 Bldg. 11	P 177,000.00
AM-TR-062	House & lot (TCT No. T-110100)	32	Lot 7 Bldg. 11	P 177,000.00
AM-TR-063	House & lot (TCT No. T-110100)	32	Lot 25 Bldg. 11	P 177,000.00
AM-TR-064	House & lot (TCT No. T-110100)	32	Lot 7 Bldg. 11	P 177,000.00
AM-TR-065	House & lot (TCT No. T-110100)	32	Lot 25 Bldg. 11	P 177,000.00
AM-TR-066	House & lot (TCT No. T-110100)	32	Lot 7 Bldg. 11	P 177,000.00
AM-TR-067	House & lot (TCT No. T-110100)	32	Lot 25 Bldg. 11	P 177,000.00
AM-TR-068	House & lot (TCT No. T-110100)	32	Lot 7 Bldg. 11	P 177,000.00
AM-TR-069	House & lot (TCT No. T-110100)	32	Lot 25 Bldg. 11	P 177,000.00
AM-TR-070	House & lot (TCT No. T-110100)	32	Lot 7 Bldg. 11	P 177,000.00
AM-TR-071	House & lot (TCT No. T-110100)	32	Lot 25 Bldg. 11	P 177,000.00
AM-TR-072	House & lot (TCT No. T-110100)	32	Lot 7 Bldg. 11	P 177,000.00
AM-TR-073	House & lot (TCT No. T-110100)	32	Lot 25 Bldg. 11	P 177,000.00
AM-TR-074	House & lot (TCT No. T-110100)	32	Lot 7 Bldg. 11	P 177,000.00
AM-TR-075	House & lot (TCT No. T-110100)	32	Lot 25 Bldg. 11	P 177,000.00
AM-TR-076	House & lot (TCT No. T-110100)	32	Lot 7 Bldg. 11	P 177,000.00
AM-TR-077	House & lot (TCT No. T-110100)	32	Lot 25 Bldg. 11	P 177,000.00
AM-TR-078	House & lot (TCT No. T-110100)	32	Lot 7 Bldg. 11	P 177,000.00
AM-TR-079	House & lot (TCT No. T-110100)	32	Lot 25 Bldg. 11	P 177,000.00
AM-TR-080	House & lot (TCT No. T-110100)	32	Lot 7 Bldg. 11	P 177,000.00
AM-TR-081	House & lot (TCT No. T-110100)	32	Lot 25 Bldg. 11	P 177,000.00
AM-TR-082	House & lot (TCT No. T-110100)	32	Lot 7 Bldg. 11	P 177,000.00
AM-TR-083	House & lot (TCT No. T-110100)	32	Lot 25 Bldg. 11	P 177,000.00
AM-TR-084	House & lot (TCT No. T-110100)	32	Lot 7 Bldg. 11	P 177,000.00
AM-TR-085	House & lot (TCT No. T-110100)	32	Lot 25 Bldg. 11	P 177,000.00
AM-TR-086	House & lot (TCT No. T-110100)	32	Lot 7 Bldg. 11	P 177,000.00
AM-TR-087	House & lot (TCT No. T-110100)	32	Lot 25 Bldg. 11	P 177,000.00
AM-TR-088	House & lot (TCT No. T-110100)	32	Lot 7 Bldg. 11	P 177,000.00
AM-TR-089	House & lot (TCT No. T-110100)	32	Lot 25 Bldg. 11	P 177,000.00
AM-TR-090	House & lot (TCT No. T-110100)	32	Lot 7 Bldg. 11	P 177,000.00
AM-TR-091	House & lot (TCT No. T-110100)	32	Lot 25 Bldg. 11	P 177,000.00
AM-TR-092	House & lot (TCT No. T-110100)	32	Lot 7 Bldg. 11	P 177,000.00
AM-TR-093	House & lot (TCT No. T-110100)	32	Lot 25 Bldg. 11	P 177,000.00
AM-TR-094	House & lot (TCT No. T-110100)	32	Lot 7 Bldg. 11	P 177,000.00
AM-TR-095	House & lot (TCT No. T-110100)	32	Lot 25 Bldg. 11	P 177,000.00
AM-TR-096	House & lot (TCT No. T-110100)	32	Lot 7 Bldg. 11	P 177,000.00
AM-TR-097	House & lot (TCT No. T-110100)	32	Lot 25 Bldg. 11	P 177,000.00
AM-TR-098	House & lot (TCT No. T-110100)	32	Lot 7 Bldg. 11	P 177,000.00
AM-TR-099	House & lot (TCT No. T-110100)	32	Lot 25 Bldg. 11	P 177,000.00
AM-TR-100	House & lot (TCT No. T-110100)	32	Lot 7 Bldg. 11	P 177,000.00
AM-TR-101	House & lot (TCT No. T-110100)	32	Lot 25 Bldg. 11	P 177,000.00
AM-TR-102	House & lot (TCT No. T-110100)	32	Lot 7 Bldg. 11	P 177,000.00
AM-TR-103	House & lot (TCT No. T-110100)	32	Lot 25 Bldg. 11	P 177,000.00
AM-TR-104	House & lot (TCT No. T-110100)	32	Lot 7 Bldg. 11	P 177,000.00
AM-TR-105	House & lot (TCT No. T-110100)	32	Lot 25 Bldg. 11	P 177,000.00
AM-TR-106	House & lot (TCT No. T-110100)	32	Lot 7 Bldg. 11	P 177,000.00
AM-TR-107	House & lot (TCT No. T-110100)	32	Lot 25 Bldg. 11	P 177,000.00
AM-TR-108	House & lot (TCT No. T-110100)	32	Lot 7 Bldg. 11	P 177,000.00
AM-TR-109	House & lot (TCT No. T-110100)	32	Lot 25 Bldg. 11	P 177,000.00
AM-TR-110	House & lot (TCT No. T-110100)	32	Lot 7 Bldg. 11	P 177,000.00
AM-TR-111	House & lot (TCT No. T-110100)	32	Lot 25 Bldg. 11	P 177,000.00
AM-TR-112	House & lot (TCT No. T-110100)	32	Lot 7 Bldg. 11	P 177,000.00
AM-TR-113	House & lot (TCT No. T-110100)	32	Lot 25 Bldg. 11	P 177,000.00
AM-TR-114	House & lot (TCT No. T-110100)	32	Lot 7 Bldg. 11	P 177,000.00
AM-TR-115	House & lot (TCT No. T-110100)	32	Lot 25 Bldg. 11	P 177,000.00
AM-TR-116	House & lot (TCT No. T-110100)	32	Lot 7 Bldg. 11	P 177,000.00
AM-TR-117	House & lot (TCT No. T-110100)	32	Lot 25 Bldg. 11	P 177,000.00
AM-TR-118	House & lot (TCT No. T-110100)	32	Lot 7 Bldg. 11	P 177,000.00
AM-TR-119	House & lot (TCT No. T-110100)	32	Lot 25 Bldg. 11	P 177,000.00
AM-TR-120	House & lot (TCT No. T-110100)	32	Lot 7 Bldg. 11	P 177,000.00
AM-TR-121	House & lot (TCT No. T-110100)	32	Lot 25 Bldg. 11	P 177,000.00
AM-TR-122	House & lot (TCT No. T-110100)	32	Lot 7 Bldg. 11	P 177,000.00
AM-TR-123	House & lot (TCT No. T-110100)	32	Lot 25 Bldg. 11	P 177,000.00
AM-TR-124	House & lot (TCT No. T-110100)	32	Lot 7 Bldg. 11	P 177,000.00
AM-TR-125	House & lot (TCT No. T-110100)	32	Lot 25 Bldg. 11	P 177,000.00
AM-TR-126	House & lot (TCT No. T-110100)	32	Lot 7 Bldg. 11	P 177,000.00
AM-TR-127	House & lot (TCT No. T-110100)	32	Lot 25 Bldg. 11	P 177,000.00
AM-TR-128	House & lot (TCT No. T-110100)	32	Lot 7 Bldg. 11	P 177,000.00
AM-TR-129	House & lot (TCT No. T-110100)	32	Lot 25 Bldg. 11	P 177,000.00
AM-TR-130	House & lot (TCT No. T-110100)	32	Lot 7 Bldg. 11	P 177,000.00
AM-TR-131	House & lot (TCT No. T-110100)	32	Lot 25 Bldg. 11	P 177,000.00
AM-TR-132	House & lot (TCT No. T-110100)	32	Lot 7 Bldg. 11	P 177,000.00
AM-TR-133	House & lot (TCT No. T-110100)	32	Lot 25 Bldg. 11	P 177,000.00
AM-TR-134	House & lot (TCT No. T-110100)	32	Lot 7 Bldg. 11	P 177,000.00
AM-TR-135	House & lot (TCT No. T-110100)	32	Lot 25 Bldg. 11	P 177,000.00
AM-TR-136	House & lot (TCT No. T-110100)	32	Lot 7 Bldg. 11	P 177,000.00
AM-TR-137	House & lot (TCT No. T-110100)	32	Lot 25 Bldg. 11	P 177,000.00
AM-TR-138	House & lot (TCT No. T-110100)	32	Lot 7 Bldg. 11	P 177,000.00
AM-TR-139	House & lot (TCT No. T-110100)	32	Lot 25 Bldg. 11	P 177,000.00
AM-TR-140	House & lot (TCT No. T-110100)	32	Lot 7 Bldg. 11	P 177,000.00
AM-TR-141	House & lot (TCT No. T-110100)	32	Lot 25 Bldg. 11	P 177,000.00
AM-TR-142	House & lot (TCT No. T-110100)	32	Lot 7 Bldg. 11	P 177,000.00
AM-TR-143	House & lot (TCT No. T-110100)	32	Lot 25 Bldg. 11	P 177,000.00
AM-TR-144	House & lot (TCT No. T-110100)	32	Lot 7 Bldg. 11	P 177,000.00
AM-TR-145	House & lot (TCT No. T-110100)	32	Lot 25 Bldg. 11	P 177,



**DONT MISS YOUR COPY!**  
CALL THE INQUIRER CUSTOMER SERVICE HOTLINE  
**896-6000**

TUESDAY,  
MARCH 14, 2006

PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER

A2-1

E-mail: pr\_entertainment@inquirer.com.ph

# ENTERTAINMENT

Text us your feedback  
inquirer.ent.name/age/city/message to 2207 (Globe) or 283 (Smart)

Editor Emmie G. Velarde

**Menéndez**  
ALWAYS FIRST  
IN GIVING YOU  
WHITER SKIN  
SKIN WHITENING INSECTABLE  
SM Fairness 857-7453 • Globe 984-4741



**OF ONE MIND.** Richard Gutierrez and Lily Monteverde listen intently as Ruffa discusses the project.

## Stars out to help

By Marinel R. Cruz  
Photos by Jim Guiao Punzalan

**"THIS IS A GREAT WAY** to raise industry people's awareness of what's happening in Leyte. If Hollywood can do it for victims of Hurricane Katrina, we can do it, too."

Actress-beauty queen Ruffa Gutierrez recently discussed with a group of entertainment writers her fund-raising project for survivors of the recent killer mudslide in St. Bernard town, Southern Leyte.

On Feb. 17, thousands in the village of Guinsaungon were buried when tons of mud and rocks streamed down the mountain after weeks of rain. The mudslide swallowed the whole of Guinsaungon, in-

Ruffa Gutierrez sets up one-day 'tiangge' to raise money for victims of Leyte landslide

cluding a schoolhouse filled with children.

Ruffa announced that she has the support of colleagues for "Celebrity Tiangge for Leyte," set on March 18, 1-10 p.m., at Trade Hall A of Market Market in Taguig City.

According to the actress, each celebrity will pay a minimum of P5,000 for one booth where they can sell their stuff, while shoppers will pay a

STARS: A2-2



**SHANG CINEPLEX**

**1 YOURS, MINE & OURS**  
MTRCB: GP  
1:00, 3:15, 5:30, 7:45, 10:00 LMF

**2 16 BLOCKS**  
MTRCB: PG-13  
12:20, 2:45, 5:10, 7:35, 10:00 LMF

**3 DATE MOVIE**  
MTRCB: R-18  
2:20, 4:15, 6:10, 8:05, 10:00

**4 CASANOVA**  
MTRCB: R-13  
12:40, 3:00, 5:20, 7:40, 10:00

**PREMIERE THEATRE: THE LAST HOLIDAY**  
MTRCB: GP 1:15, 3:45, 6:15, 9:00 LMF  
Movies and schedules are subject to change without prior notice.

**Catch the Cineplex Special**  
Get a Min. Shabu-Shabu Cash Certificate worth P100.00 for every single purchase of two (2) tickets of any movie at the Shang Cineplex.  
Promo Period: Feb 15 to Mar 15, 2006. See Posters For Details.  
Per DTI-NGR Permit Number A3-0166, Series of 2006

Call 833-7851, loc. 171 or 888-2887 for more details.

**POWER PLANT**

Rockwell Center, Makati City Tel. No. 8761440-41

<b>R18</b> 1:40, 3:40, 5:40, 7:40, 9:40	<b>CASANOVA</b> R13 12:15, 2:45, 5:15, 7:45, 10:10	<b>YOURS, MINE AND OURS</b> G 1:45, 3:55, 6:05, 8:15, 10:25
<b>THE LAST HOLIDAY</b> G 12:20, 2:45, 5:10, 7:35, 10:00	<b>UNDERCLASSMAN</b> R13 1:20, 3:35, 5:40, 7:45, 9:50	<b>16 BLOCKS</b> PG13 1:35, 3:45, 5:55, 8:05, 10:20

MOVIES AND SCREENING SCHEDULES SUBJECT TO CHANGE WITHOUT NOTICE. FOR INFORMATION CALL 888-2887. Matinee Screenings before 5:00 p.m. "Free Seating" P111.00 - Monday-Friday.

**starmall**  
EDSA, SCARLETT  
Tel. No. 728 0150

**METROPOLIS**  
ALABANG  
Tel. No. 850 4285

<b>3: Fearless</b> <b>4: Under Renovation</b> <b>5: 16 Blocks</b>	<b>1: Tiger Blade</b> <b>2: 16 Blocks</b> <b>3: Casanova</b> <b>4: Fearless</b>
---	--

**Everyday Family Day at StarMall!**  
Every Tuesdays Stand-Up Comedy. Every Fridays Live Acoustic Bands at Cuba Libre Bar StarMall Ede. Mondays to Thursdays Live Bands. Every Fridays Stand-Up Comedy at Mark's KTV Metropolis. 6 Cycle Med (Mar 12) Barba Alabang (Mar 13) River Maya (Mar 26) Metropolis Alabang. Manila Philharmonic Orchestra (Mar 11) Pinchel Ave Go (Mar 12) Barba Alabang (Mar 26) StarMall Ede.

**Do You Dare See It?**  
**OPENS TOMORROW**  
R-18 **STRICTLY FOR ADULTS ONLY**  
Warning: Contains scenes showing Extreme Violence and Nudity

**QUENTIN TARANTINO** PRESENTS  
**HOSTEL**  
WRITTEN AND DIRECTED BY **ELI ROTH**

Distributed by **COLUMBIA PICTURES**

**FUN & FURRY FAMILY COMEDY**  
**OPENS TOMORROW!**  
MTRCB: G ALL AGES ARE ADMITTED

**TIM ALLEN** is

**THE SHAGGY DOG**

Distributed by Buena Vista International thru Columbia Pictures

The Bowl of Endless Delight, now featuring:

# Fiery Beef of Hunan



Fulfilling.

Long ago after a great battle, the Warriors of Hunan celebrated their victory by making a dish to honor their fiery spirit and bravery. They selected the juiciest and most tender beef; and sliced it to perfection. The moist meat was dipped in the secret Hunan spicy sauce. This perfect blend of flavors was called the Fiery Beef of Hunan. Delighted by the fare, the men kept the secrets of the spiced treat in a legendary bowl. For centuries, men searched for this scrumptious meal, long hidden in the Bowl of Endless Delight, now known as the Super Bowl of China.

Super Delivery 737-8888  
SM Megamall • Jupiter • Glorietta 4 • Festival Mall • SM City North EDSA • Eastwood Libs • Promenade Greenhills • Blue Wave Marikina  
SM City Fairview • Araneta Gateway Mall • SM City San Lazaro • Tomas Morato • Big Buddha Greenbelt 3 • Big Buddha Blue Wave Macapagal



SM CINEMA

movietime

CENTERLIFE

LIVE-LARGE

PRESENT

**Barbie & Rockspeddy**

MARCH 18, 2006 SM MANILA  
SATURDAY CINEMA 4

Tickets available at TICKETWORLD 891-5610/ 891-9999

METRO MANILA		
<b>PODIUM</b> <b>16 BLOCKS</b> 01:20 FS / 01:50 MF / 04:10 06:30 / 09:20 / FS 09:00 LMF / 10:45 END <b>YOURS, MINE &amp; OURS</b> 02:30 FS / 03:00 MF / 05:00 07:00 / 08:30 LFS 09:00 LMF / 10:30 END	<b>SM CITY FAIRVIEW</b> <b>LAST HOLIDAY</b> <b>MEMOIRS OF GEISHA</b> <b>YOURS, MINE &amp; OURS</b> <b>FINAL DESTINATION 3</b> <b>FEARLESS</b> <b>UNDERCLASS MAN</b> <b>16 BLOCKS</b> <b>CLOSE TO YOU</b> <b>THE DARK</b> <b>BIG MOMMA'S HOUSE</b> <b>I WILL ALWAYS LOVE YOU</b> <b>AEON FLUX</b>	<b>SM CITY MANILA</b> <b>16 BLOCKS</b> <b>CASANOVA</b> <b>BIG MOMMA'S HOUSE</b> <b>FINAL DESTINATION 3</b> <b>YOURS, MINE &amp; OURS</b> <b>FEARLESS</b> <b>UNDERCLASS MAN</b> <b>LAST HOLIDAY /</b> <b>MEMOIRS OF GEISHA</b> <b>CLOSE TO YOU</b> <b>PRIDE AND PREJUDICE</b> <b>THE DARK</b> <b>TIGER BLADE</b>
<b>SM MEGACINEMA</b> <b>16 BLOCKS</b> 12:15 FS / 12:40 MF / 03:00 05:20 / 07:40 / 09:30 LFS 10:00 LMF / 11:50 END <b>YOURS, MINE &amp; OURS</b> <b>TIGER BLADE</b> <b>RESERVED</b> <b>THE DARK</b> <b>CASANOVA</b> <b>BIG MOMMA'S HOUSE</b> <b>UNDERCLASS MAN</b> <b>FEARLESS</b> <b>FINAL DESTINATION 3</b> <b>LAST HOLIDAY</b> <b>CLOSE TO YOU</b>	<b>SM CITY STA. MESA</b> <b>16 BLOCKS</b> <b>THE DARK</b> <b>CASANOVA</b> <b>FINAL DESTINATION 3</b> <b>FEARLESS</b> <b>BIG MOMMA'S HOUSE</b> <b>YOURS, MINE &amp; OURS</b> <b>LAST HOLIDAY</b> <b>CLOSE TO YOU</b> <b>UNDERCLASS MAN</b>	<b>SM CITY SOUTHMALL</b> <b>16 BLOCKS</b> <b>CLOSE TO YOU</b> <b>FEARLESS</b> <b>CASANOVA</b> <b>LAST HOLIDAY</b> <b>UNDERCLASS MAN</b> <b>YOURS, MINE &amp; OURS</b> <b>FINAL DESTINATION 3</b> <b>THE DARK</b> <b>RESERVED</b>
<b>SM CITY ALABANG</b> <b>CASANOVA</b> <b>16 BLOCKS</b> <b>THE DARK</b> <b>RESERVED</b> <b>LAST HOLIDAY / CLOSE TO YOU</b> <b>YOURS, MINE &amp; OURS</b> <b>FINAL DESTINATION 3</b> <b>FEARLESS</b>	<b>SM CITY BICAN</b> <b>16 BLOCKS</b> <b>UNDERCLASS MAN</b> <b>YOURS, MINE &amp; OURS</b> <b>FEARLESS</b>	<b>SM SUPERCENTER VALENZUELA</b> <b>FINAL DESTINATION 3</b> <b>FEARLESS</b> <b>YOURS, MINE &amp; OURS</b> <b>CLOSE TO YOU</b>
<b>SM CITY DASMARINAS</b> <b>FEARLESS</b> <b>16 BLOCKS</b> <b>YOURS, MINE &amp; OURS</b> <b>SYRIANA</b>	<b>SM CITY SAN LAZARO</b> <b>16 BLOCKS</b> <b>FINAL DESTINATION 3</b> <b>THE DARK</b> <b>FEARLESS / CLOSE TO YOU</b> <b>CASANOVA</b> <b>YOURS, MINE &amp; OURS</b>	<b>SM CITY SUCAT</b> <b>YOURS, MINE &amp; OURS</b> <b>FEARLESS</b> <b>16 BLOCKS</b> <b>CLOSE TO YOU</b>

Now Showing at SM Cinemas

# LAST HOLIDAY

Watch QUEEN LATIFAH on how she fulfilled the possibilities when she thought she only had three weeks... to live the rest of her life

PG-13

RELEASE THROUGH

LUZON		
<b>SM CITY BAGUIO</b> <b>FIREWALL</b> <b>AEON FLUX</b> <b>FEARLESS</b> <b>YOURS, MINE &amp; OURS</b>	<b>SM CITY BACOR</b> <b>UNDERCLASS MAN</b> <b>BIG MOMMA'S HOUSE</b> <b>16 BLOCKS</b> <b>FINAL DESTINATION 3</b> <b>FEARLESS</b> <b>CLOSE TO YOU</b> <b>THE DARK</b> <b>YOURS, MINE &amp; OURS</b>	<b>SM CITY PAMPANGA</b> <b>FEARLESS</b> <b>YOURS, MINE &amp; OURS</b> <b>FINAL DESTINATION 3</b> <b>PRIDE AND PREJUDICE</b> <b>WALK THE LINE</b> <b>CLOSE TO YOU</b>
<b>SM CITY MABILAD</b> <b>BIG MOMMA'S HOUSE</b> <b>FEARLESS</b> <b>CLOSE TO YOU</b> <b>UNDERCLASS MAN</b>	<b>SM CITY STA. ROSA</b> <b>CLOSE TO YOU</b> <b>YOURS, MINE &amp; OURS</b> <b>FINAL DESTINATION 3</b> <b>FEARLESS</b>	<b>SM CITY MOUNTAIN</b> <b>FINAL DESTINATION 3</b> <b>FEARLESS</b> <b>UNDERCLASS MAN</b> <b>16 BLOCKS</b>
<b>SM CITY BANGALAS</b> <b>PINK PANTHER</b> <b>CLOSE TO YOU</b> <b>BLOODRAYNE</b> <b>MUNICH</b>	<b>SM CITY ILOILO</b> <b>YOURS, MINE &amp; OURS</b> <b>RESERVED</b> <b>BIG MOMMA'S HOUSE</b> <b>FEARLESS</b> <b>CLOSE TO YOU</b> <b>NEW WORLD</b> <b>RESERVED</b> <b>MEMOIRS OF GEISHA</b>	<b>SM CITY DAVAO</b> <b>FIREWALL</b> <b>CRASH</b> <b>CLOSE TO YOU</b> <b>FEARLESS</b> <b>YOURS, MINE &amp; OURS</b> <b>AEON FLUX</b>
<b>SM CITY CEBU</b> <b>MEMOIRS OF GEISHA</b> 11:30 FS / 02:00 / 04:30 07:00 / 09:24 LFS 09:30 LMF / 11:50 END <b>FEARLESS</b> 11:20 FS / 11:30 MF 01:30 / 03:30 / 05:30 07:30 / 09:15 LFS 09:30 LMF / 11:15 END <b>16 BLOCKS</b> 11:20 FS / 11:30 MF 01:30 / 03:30 / 05:30 07:30 / 09:15 LFS 09:30 LMF / 11:15 END <b>YOURS, MINE &amp; OURS</b> <b>ST. ANGE</b> <b>NASAAN SI FRANCIS</b> <b>CLOSE TO YOU</b> <b>AEON FLUX</b>	<b>SM CITY CAGAYAN</b> <b>WALK THE LINE</b> <b>FEARLESS</b> <b>AEON FLUX</b> <b>FIREWALL</b>	

SCHEDULES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE WITHOUT PRIOR NOTICE

FROM THE PRODUCERS OF "YAKU"

EXCLUSIVE

Comic and war the

# FEARLESS

EXHIBIT

Actual props and costumes used in the movie are now on display at SM City Manila Cinema lobby From February 22 to March 14

NOW SHOWING

ROBINSONS MOVIEWORLD CINEMAS MOVIE GUIDE

CINEMA ACCESS  
**635-5555**  
FOR ALL BRANCHES

www.robinsonsmovieworld.com

MOVIES/SCHEDULES/PRICES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE WITHOUT PRIOR NOTICE

GALLERIA	
<b>1 CASANOVA - THX</b> 12:40 3:00 5:20 7:40 10:00	<b>6 YOURS, MINE AND OURS</b> 11:15 1:20 3:25 5:30 7:35 9:45
<b>2 DATE MOVIE</b> 11:15 1:20 3:25 5:30 7:35 9:45	<b>7 BROKEBACK MOUNTAIN</b> 1:30 4:20 7:10 10:00
<b>3 16 BLOCKS</b> 12:30 2:50 5:10 7:30 9:50	<b>8 UNDERCLASS MAN</b> 1:00 3:10 5:20 7:30 9:40
<b>4 KEYS TO THE HOUSE</b> 12:40 3:00 5:20 7:40 10:00	<b>9 THE DARK</b> 1:10 3:20 5:30 7:40 9:50
<b>5 LAST HOLIDAY</b> 12:00 2:30 5:00 7:30 10:00	<b>10 FEARLESS</b> 12:30 2:50 5:10 7:30 9:50

ERMITA	
<b>1 16 BLOCKS</b> 12:30 2:50 5:10 7:30 9:50	<b>5 LAST HOLIDAY</b> 12:00 2:30 5:00 7:30 10:00
<b>2 YOURS, MINE AND OURS</b> 12:00 2:00 4:00 6:00 8:00 9:50	<b>6 YOURS, MINE AND OURS</b> 12:30 2:50 5:10 7:30 9:50
<b>3 UNDERCLASS MAN</b> 12:00 2:00 4:00 6:00 8:00 10:00	<b>7 FEARLESS</b> 12:30 2:50 5:10 7:30 9:50
<b>4 THE DARK</b> 12:30 2:50 5:10 7:30 9:50	

METRO EAST	
<b>1 LAST HOLIDAY</b> 1:05 3:45 6:25 9:05	<b>5 FEARLESS</b> 12:15 2:25 4:35 6:45 9:00
<b>2 CASANOVA</b> 12:15 2:25 4:35 6:45 9:00	<b>6 YOURS, MINE AND OURS</b> 11:45 2:05 4:25 6:45 9:05
<b>3 DATE MOVIE</b> 11:00 1:00 3:05 5:10 7:15 9:15	<b>7 16 BLOCKS</b> 11:05 1:35 4:05 6:35 9:05
<b>4 UNDERCLASS MAN</b> 12:40 2:45 4:50 6:55 9:00	<b>8 THE DARK</b> 11:50 2:10 4:30 6:50 9:10

NOVALICHES	
<b>1 YOURS, MINE AND OURS</b> <b>2 DATE MOVIE</b> <b>3 CASANOVA</b>	<b>4 BROKEBACK MOUNTAIN</b> <b>5 16 BLOCKS</b> <b>6 UNDERCLASS MAN</b>
CITISQUARE MALABON	
<b>1 BLOODRAYNE</b> <b>2 DATE MOVIE</b> <b>3 RESERVE</b> <b>4 RESERVE</b>	<b>1 16 BLOCKS</b> <b>2 YOURS, MINE AND OURS</b> <b>3 DATE MOVIE</b> <b>4 THE DARK</b>

exclusive screening

Robinsons Movieworld

# GALLERIA

A FATHER AND SON LOVE STORY EVERY MOTHER WOULD DIE FOR

The film is a touching story of a young father forging a relationship with his handicapped son, whom he meets for the first time as a teenager. Having suffered a traumatic birth, Paolo is disabled both physically and psychologically and must travel to a special hospital in Berlin for rehabilitation. Gianni, who accompanies the boy in hopes of getting to know his estranged son, meets Nicole, a young woman dedicating herself entirely to the care of her handicapped daughter. Through the conversations, Nicole helps Gianni come to terms with the guilt of having abandoned Paolo. This revelation results in an unexpected and joyful happiness between a father and a son discovering each other and themselves in a place far from home.

the keys to the house

Open on March 04

CINEMA ACCESS: 635-5555

STA. ROSA	
<b>1 FINAL DESTINATION 3</b> <b>2 MURDER</b> <b>3 YOURS, MINE AND OURS</b> <b>4 DATE MOVIE</b> <b>5 FEARLESS</b>	<b>1 FEARLESS</b> <b>2 NASAAN SI FRANCIS</b> <b>3 PINK PANTHER</b> <b>4 NEW WORLD</b>
DASMARINAS	
<b>1 YOURS, MINE AND OURS</b> <b>2 PRIDE AND PREJUDICE</b> <b>3 SYRIANA</b> <b>4 NASAAN SI FRANCIS?</b> <b>5 16 BLOCKS</b>	<b>1 BLOODRAYNE</b> <b>2 DATE MOVIE</b> <b>3 BROKEBACK MOUNTAIN</b> <b>4 YOURS, MINE AND OURS</b>
IMUS	
<b>1 PRIDE AND PREJUDICE</b> <b>2 YOURS, MINE AND OURS</b> <b>3 DATE MOVIE</b> <b>4 16 BLOCKS</b>	<b>1 PRIDE AND PREJUDICE</b> <b>2 YOURS, MINE AND OURS</b> <b>3 DATE MOVIE</b> <b>4 BROKEBACK MOUNTAIN</b> <b>5 FEARLESS</b> <b>6 FINAL DESTINATION 3</b>

BACOLOD	
<b>1 AEON FLUX</b> <b>2 BIG MOMMA'S HOUSE 2</b> <b>3 UNDERWORLD 2</b> <b>4 FEARLESS</b> <b>5 YOURS, MINE AND OURS</b> <b>6 NASAAN SI FRANCIS?</b>	<b>1 FEARLESS</b> <b>2 NASAAN SI FRANCIS?</b> <b>3 BIG MOMMA'S HOUSE 2</b> <b>4 YOURS, MINE AND OURS</b> <b>5 MURDER</b> <b>6 NEW WORLD</b>
ILOILO	

The Perfect Gift

All Year Round

A Pre Paid Movie Pass to the Hottest Seats in town.

Get Special discounts for volume purchases!

For marketing and event/promotional phone call Marketing Services Department at 020-7945-10-11 booth 14 and 15

A2-2

DONITA Rose

# Stars out to help

From page A2-1

P300 entrance fee. "It's up to the artists if they want to pay more than P5,000.. or donate everything they earned to the cause"

Unsold items will be auctioned off on eBay, the online American auction site, said Ruffa

Proceeds will be handed over to the Philippine National Red Cross, United Nations Children's Fund (Unicef) and the Shining Light Foundation—which will take charge of the distribution of goods in Leyte

**First plan**

Ruffa said she initially planned a simple garage sale to dispose of her old clothes and shoes. "I had collected five suitcases of clothes which I hoped to sell—when the Leyte tragedy happened," Ruffa recalled. "I changed my plan to this."

She added: "Tito Boy (Abunda) and Dawn (Zulueta) said they would have a joint booth. Tito Boy will sell some of his funky blazers and vintage belts; Dawn, her soaps and custom-made accessories"

"I said yes [to the project] immediately," said model-TV host Phoebe Baranda. "I plan to sell clothes from some of my modeling jobs."

Actress Heart Evangelista said she will sell her shoes and bags

Aside from donating her stuff, MTV video jock Donita Rose will also co-host the event with Ruffa and her brother Raymond.

Geneva Cruz and Jay-R have agreed to perform, said Ruffa.

**Confident**

Movie producer Lily Monteverde also pledged support.

"I'm confident that from this will spring forth a lot of similar projects," said Angeli Pangilinan, talent manager.

Other celebrities who will participate are: Sharon Cuneta, Pops Fernandez, Gary Valenciano, Loren Legarda, Kuh Ledesma, Richard and Lucy Gomez, German Moreno, Gretchen Barretto, Albert and Lieliz Martinez, Geneva Cruz, Jay-R, Arnell Ignacio, Vina Morales, Ricky Reyes and Eddie and Annabel Gutierrez.



## BY JESS ABRERA



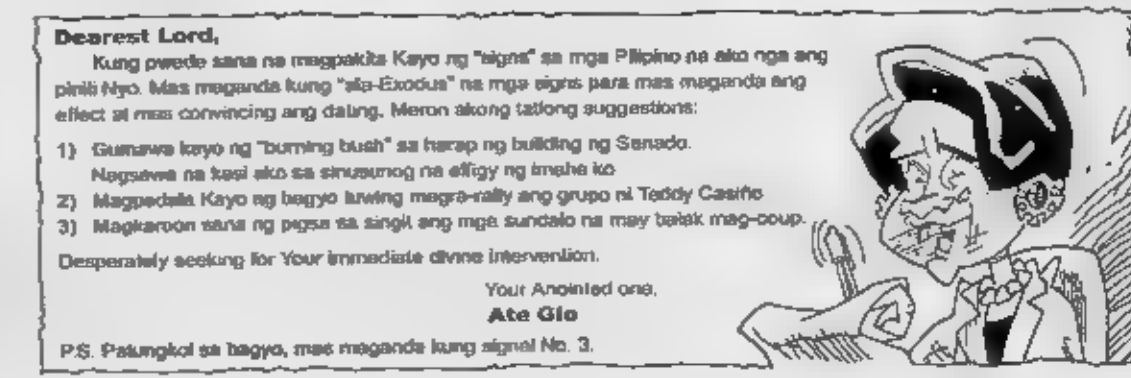
## PLUGAD BABOY



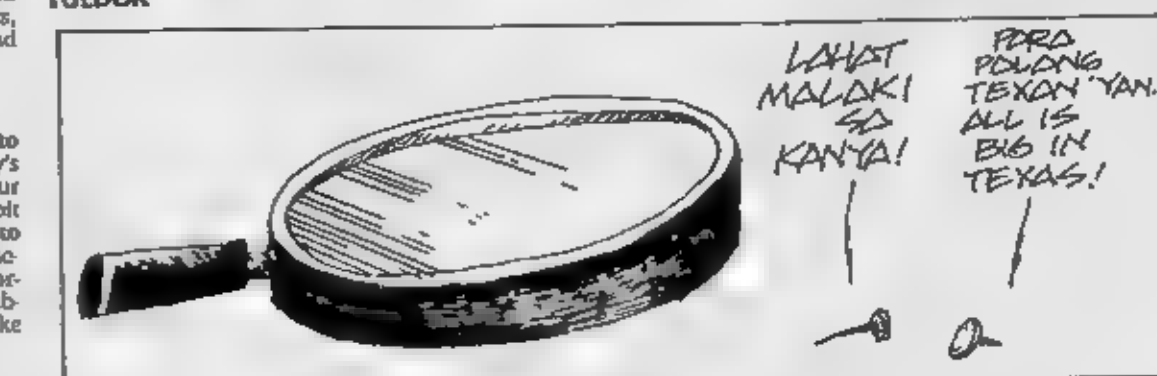
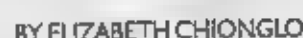
## MILTS



## DIVINE COMEDY



## BY KOMIKE TEJIDO

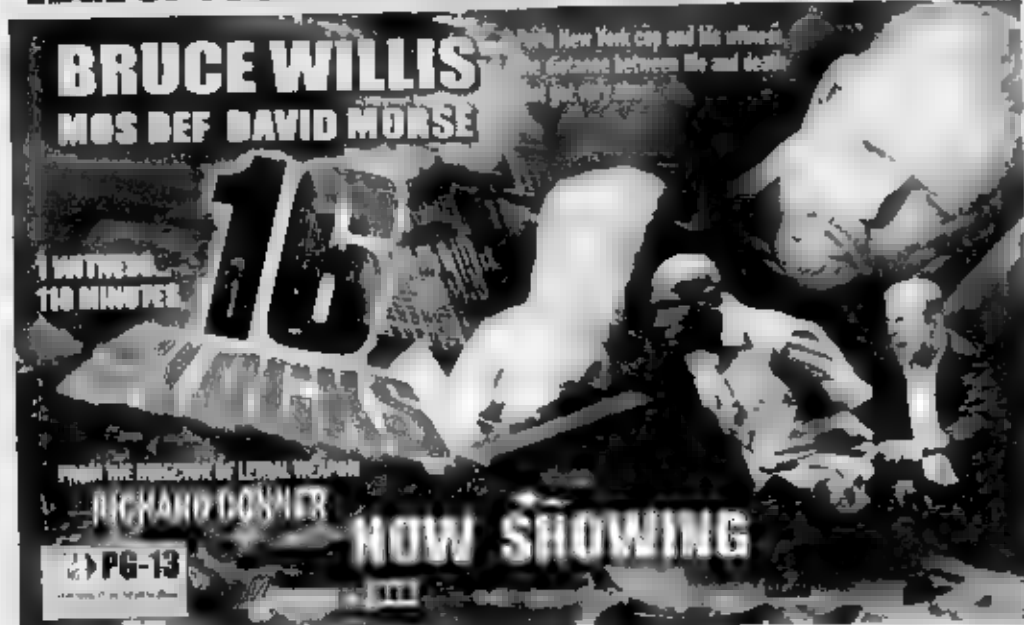




# Why Sexbomb quit 'Bulaga'

From page A2-4

**#1 MOVIE OF THE WEEK!**  
**EDGE OF YOUR SEAT ACTION FROM START TO END.**



I saw Pia Guanio last Wednesday, March 1 at around 3 p.m. in Gateway. She was with another girl and I was with my 12-year-old son. My son, who really likes her, asked me to take his picture with her using his cell phone. My son and I waited for Pia near Marks and Spencer. When she saw us, she smiled and went inside the store. We followed her. I heard her whisper to the other girl, "Karina pa yang dalawang yan. Stalker ba ato?" Those were her exact words. Seeing the

shocked look on my son's face, I told Pia, "Sorry, didn't mean to scare you. Poses-sya na." To my surprise, she said, "Yeah, right! Do I need to call security?" I told her it wasn't necessary.

I immediately texted Pia to get her side. Her reply: "Swty, I don't frequent Gateway. I guess someone is just out to ruin my rep. Thanks for helping me clear it up."

## Guess list

Guess who this young female singer

is! She was invited to sing at one event of an insurance company. She acted like a prima donna, snubbing everybody. An agent approached her, asking from what company she was. Ms. Chantuse flared up and said she's the performer! Serves her right. Now maybe she knows she's a better pill to swallow.

Clue: She's the product of a TV talent search.

Guess who this male crooner is! He's been telling people that he saved the life of a fan who had a heart attack while watching his show abroad. My US contacts insist that the singer could not have saved the fan, who was seated far away from the stage.

Clue: The balladeer is a separated man.

## One night only

Acclaimed guitarist and vocalist Bruce Conte is performing on March 22 at Merik's Bar Bistro (3rd level Greenbelt 3 Makati) with Wowee Posadas, Miong Pacana, Mar Dizon, Michael Alba and Merik & Friends.

Bruce is famous for playing with the Tower of Power from 1972 to 1979. Call 757-4720 or 757-4721.

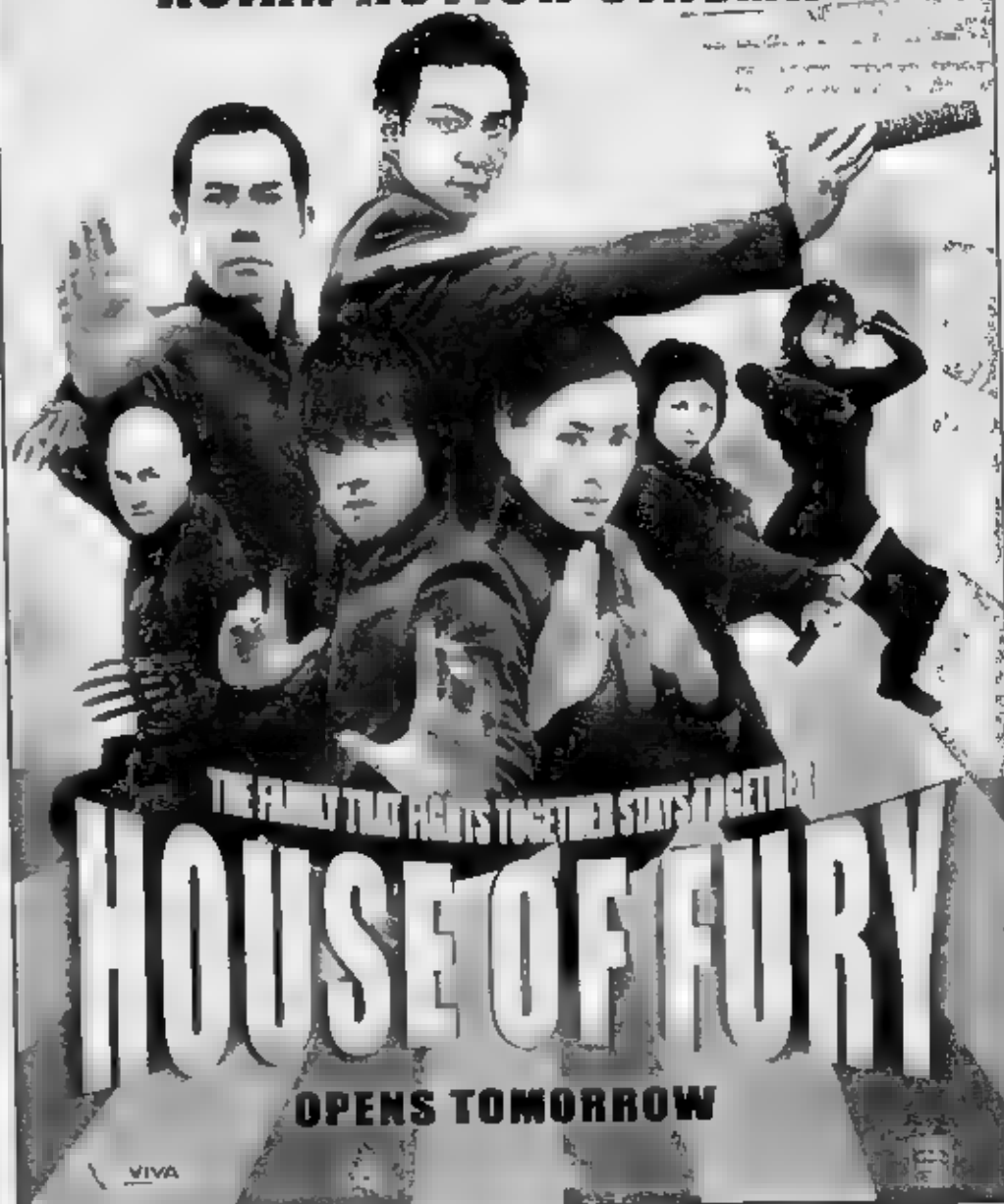
## Summer courses

Ryan Cayabyab The Music Studio has lined up its summer courses: Musikgarten, for kids 3 to 7, 14K program, a workshop composed of music activities used by 14K (a popular singing group of pre-teens in the late '80s), for kids 8 to 13, and Vocal Pop Performance Workshop for those 14 years old and above, and which includes individual voice lessons and master classes in pop singing. Call 844-3330, 843-2874 or (0917) 909-6484.

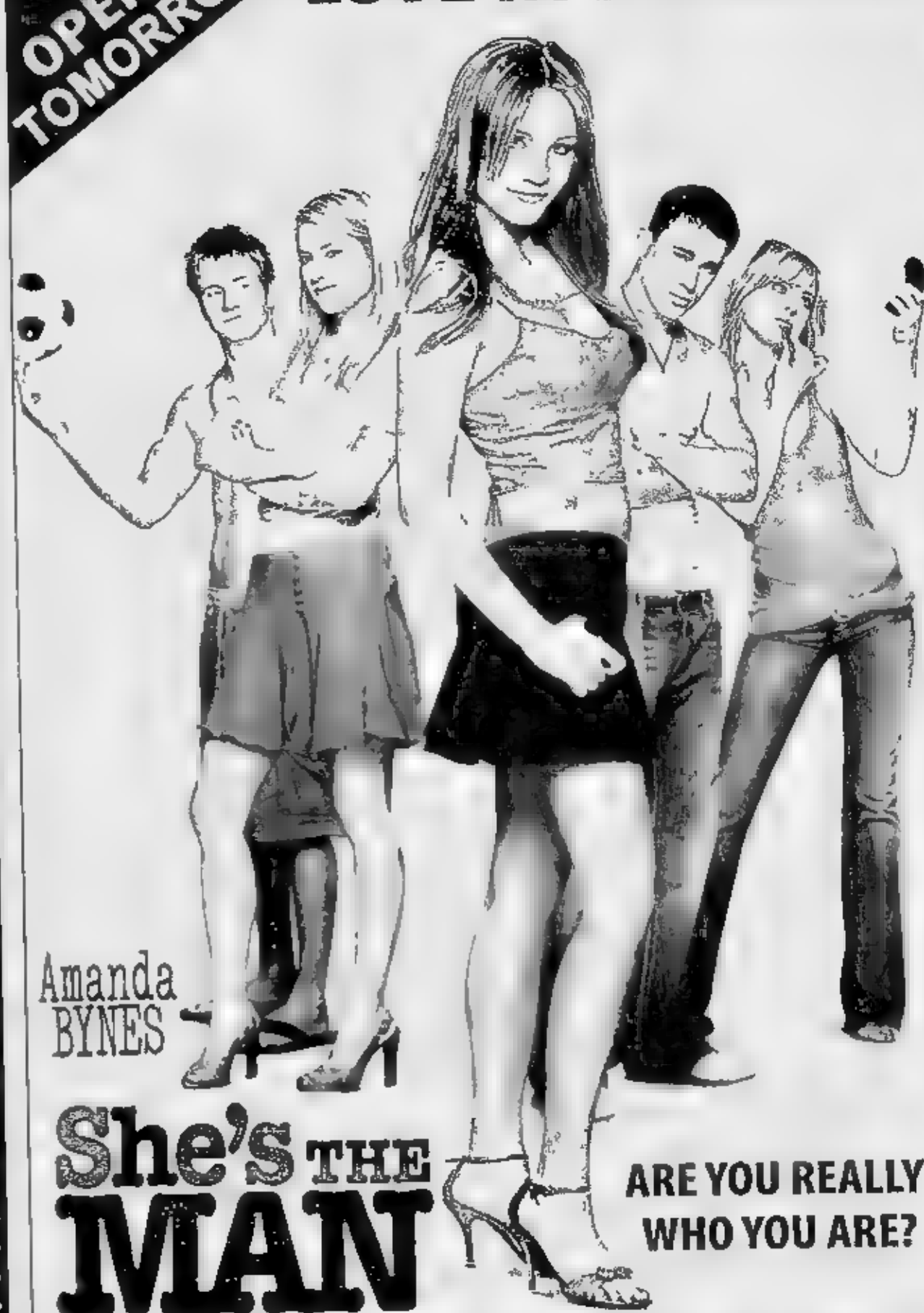
(E-Mail: watering-holeshangria@yahoo.com.)

**MTRCB PG-13** Children below 13 yrs. old only be allowed if accompanied by a parent or parent.

## JACKIE CHAN presents THE HOTTEST YOUNGBLOODS OF ASIAN ACTION CINEMA



## LOVE IN DISGUISE



LAKHSHMI ENTERTAINMENT AND PRODUCTIONS PRESENTS A LAKHSHMI PRODUCTION AMANDA BYNES SHE'S THE MAN CHANNING TATUM LAURA RAMBEY  
CASTING BY JANE W. ROBERTSON COSTUME DESIGNER ANDREW FORTINER MUSIC BY JANE W. ROBERTSON EDITOR JANE W. ROBERTSON  
EXECUTIVE PRODUCERS JANE W. ROBERTSON ANDREW FORTINER PRODUCED BY JANE W. ROBERTSON ANDREW FORTINER  
SCREENPLAY BY JANE W. ROBERTSON ANDREW FORTINER DIRECTED BY JANE W. ROBERTSON ANDREW FORTINER

## MMTA METRO MANILA THEATERS ASSOCIATION MOVIE GUIDE NOW SHOWING

<b>SHANGHAI CINEMAS</b> 6th floor Shangri-La Plaza EDSA corner Street Southside, Mandaluyong City Telephone: 833-2227 / 833-7881 (loc. 17) 1 10:00pm YOURS, MINE & OURS 2 8:00pm 16 BLOCKS PG-13 3 10:00pm DATE MOVIE 4 8:00pm <b>PREMIERE</b> 5 10:00pm LAST HOLIDAY PG-13	<b>FILINVEST</b> <b>FESTIVAL CINEMA</b> (Muntinlupa) tel 850-3571 or 72 1 10:00pm THE DARK 2 8:00pm FINAL DESTINATION-3 3 10:00pm UNDERCLASS MAN / BIG MOMMA'S HOUSE 4 8:00pm DATE MOVIE 5 10:00pm 16 BLOCKS 6 8:00pm YOURS, MINE & OURS 7 10:00pm CASANOVA 8 8:00pm 9 10:00pm CLOSE TO YOU 10 8:00pm THE LAST HOLIDAY / TIGER BLADE	<b>WOLFE CINEMAS</b> (Excelsior City Walk 2, Eastwood City E. Rodriguez Jr. Ave (E-5) Quezon City) 1 10:00pm CASANOVA 2 8:00pm YOURS, MINE & OURS 3 10:00pm 16 BLOCKS 4 8:00pm LAST HOLIDAY
<b>CINEMA 2000</b> Cinema 2000 Walmart Makati Walmart Center, Ciano Rances Ave. cor. Antonio Alvarez Pina del Mar, Makati City Tel 816-4214 / 816-4216 1 10:00pm 16 BLOCKS 2 8:00pm FEARLESS - PG-13 3 10:00pm YOUR MINE & OURS - GP 4 8:00pm DATE MOVIE PG-13	<b>Blue Wave</b> Sandigan Highway cor. Mayor Gil Fernandez Street, Sta. Rosa, Marikina City tel 834-1927 1 10:00pm YOURS, MINE & OURS 2 8:00pm DATE MOVIE 3 10:00pm 16 BLOCKS 4 8:00pm RESERVED <b>SUPER CINERAMA</b> Isatani Cinerama Complex Recta tel 733-4228 1 10:00pm FEARLESS 2 8:00pm THE DARK 3 10:00pm YOURS, MINE & OURS 4 8:00pm 16 BLOCKS 5 10:00pm DATE MOVIE	<b>CINEMA 2000</b> Movie Theatres of the New Millennium Cinema 2000 Walmart (Calamba) tel (049) 545-7383 1 10:00pm DATE MOVIE 2 8:00pm BLOODRAYNE 3 10:00pm YOURS, MINE & OURS 4 8:00pm Cinema 2000 Pavilion Mall (Binang) tel (049) 4111546 1 10:00pm FINAL DESTINATION 2 8:00pm 3 10:00pm 4 8:00pm Cinema 2000 Cinemagix (Urdaneta) tel (075) 568-6771 1 10:00pm CLOSE TO YOU 2 8:00pm 3 10:00pm 4 8:00pm
<b>starmall</b> (Mandaluyong) tel 726-8150 1 10:00pm FEARLESS 2 8:00pm CLOSED FOR RENOVATION 3 10:00pm 16 BLOCKS 4 8:00pm <b>metropolis star</b> www.clarkdesig.com.ph (ALABANG) tel 880-2285 / 543-2994 1 10:00pm TIGER BLADE 2 8:00pm 16 BLOCKS 3 10:00pm CASANOVA 4 8:00pm	<b>HAPPY PACT</b> Mandaluyong tel 533-3851 / 533-3856 1 10:00pm PINK PANTHER 2 8:00pm BIG MOMMA'S HOUSE-2 3 10:00pm SNEAK CHARMER 4 8:00pm RESERVED <b>Marasana</b> <b>CINEMA</b> (Pasay) tel 833-3290 / 833-3274 1 10:00pm YOURS, MINE & OURS 2 8:00pm 3 10:00pm 4 8:00pm <b>Center Mall Cinema</b> Baguio Center Mall, Baguio City tel (074) 444-3448 1 10:00pm FIREWALL 2 8:00pm YOURS, MINE & OURS <b>Jade Cinema</b> (Angeles City) tel (045) 887-5801 to 83 1 10:00pm BACKBACK MOUNTAIN 2 8:00pm CLOSE TO YOU 3 10:00pm YOURS, MINE & OURS 4 8:00pm <b>Cine Nepo</b> (Angeles City) tel (045) 887-0121 1 10:00pm RESERVED 2 8:00pm RESERVED 3 10:00pm RESERVED 4 8:00pm <b>Cine Nepo</b> (Baguio City) tel (075) 525-8469 1 10:00pm CLOSE TO YOU 2 8:00pm THE NEW WORLD 3 10:00pm PINK PANTHER 4 8:00pm <b>Centre Plaza Cinema</b> (Baguio, Bulacan) tel (047) 237-7007 1 10:00pm CLOSE TO YOU 2 8:00pm PINK PANTHER	<b>Lianas Cinema</b> (Pasig) tel 640-4748 1 10:00pm CLOSE TO YOU 2 8:00pm <b>Lianas Cinema</b> (Alabang) tel 858-1274 1 10:00pm TIGER BLADE 2 8:00pm 3 10:00pm 4 8:00pm <b>Lianas MovieCity</b> (Calamba) tel (049) 545-7202 1 10:00pm 2 8:00pm 3 10:00pm 4 8:00pm <b>Fiesta World Mall</b> (Lipa) tel (043) 981-8799 1 10:00pm CLOSE TO YOU 2 8:00pm THE PINK PANTHER 3 10:00pm 4 8:00pm <b>Berna Cinema</b> (Boracay) tel 879-2839 / 879-2829 1 10:00pm SHUT UP & KISS ME 2 8:00pm TAMPON

MOVIES / SCHEDULES / PRICES SUBJECT TO CHANGE WITHOUT PRIOR NOTICE



# A tribute to Gene Kelly

ASIDE FROM SCREENING OUTSTANDING NEW films from all over the world, the recent Bangkok International Film Festival honored some icons of cinema with special tribute modules and retrospectives. We were most delighted with the tribute to our own film "hero," Gene Kelly.

As a child, we had the best time at the movies when our mother took us to the Escolta to watch musical films at the two theaters there. That's where we fell in love with the films of Gene Kelly, as actor, director and choreographer.

We still recall outstanding scenes from Kelly's best films, like "Singin' in the Rain" and "An American in Paris," as though we had just watched them last week. That's how indelibly beautiful, exciting and entertaining his best movies were.

Kelly's special module at the Bangkok film-fest has served to renew public interest in his exceptional film oeuvre. We urge younger viewers to get hold of tapes or discs of vintage Gene Kelly films, so they can enrich their movie lore with the still exciting output of a genuine movie master.

"Singin' in the Rain," stars Kelly as a screen idol and Debbie Reynolds is his young love interest. The film humorously recounts the awkward transition from silent films to sound.

Similarly memorable is the seductive role of the gangster moll played by the statuesque Cyd Charisse.

"An American in Paris" tells the story of an American (Kelly) who falls in love with a French girl (Leslie Caron). Most notable is the film's climax, a 17-minute ballet choreographed by Kelly, set to the music of George Gershwin. The inspiration for the ballet was the canvases of the great impressionist painters, like Toulouse-Lautrec and Renoir.

Kelly achieved his first success as "Harry the Hoofer" in "The Time of Your Life" on Broadway.

He also scored big in the title role in "Pai Joey."

With his first film, "For Me and My Gal," Kelly exhibited himself as a strong and unique singing and dancing movie star.

In "Cover Girl," his "Alter Ego" number still stands today as a major step to change the look of dance on film.

In "On the Town," Kelly took the musical

out of the studio onto the streets of New York.

His innovative use of dance, music and camerawork continued through such films as "Brigadoon," "Summer Stock" and "Invitation to a Dance."

We hope that a film club or theater in Manila puts up a Gene Kelly retrospective this year. We assure viewers who haven't yet enjoyed Kelly's films that they'll be in for a great, exciting and fun time at the movies.

## VIEWFINDER



Nestor U. Torre

## NOW SHOWING

SHE HAS THREE WEEKS TO LIVE...  
THE REST OF HER LIFE



## Feedback

From Paul R. Mortel: "I think it would be a good idea if advertisers could declare a week of nostalgia during which they would air radio-TV commercials produced from the '60s to the '80s."

"It would be exciting to once again listen to or view the San Miguel Beer commercials of Bert Marcelo, the Apo Hiking Society, Amang Parica, Flash Elorde and Rico J. Puno in the 'Isang Platitong Man' spot, etc. And, not to be forgotten, the Rufina Patis spot (I think it's the oldest TV commercial)."

**ARANETA CENTER**

Gateway **MIMALL** Farmers Plaza

THE ONLY CINEMPLEX IN THE COUNTRY **Gateway CinPLEX\*10** **DOLBY DIGITAL-EX**

<b>THE DARK</b> 1:30 / 3:10 / 5:20 / 7:30 / 9:40	<b>UNDERCLASSMAN</b> 12:50 / 3:00 / 5:10 / 7:20 / 9:30	<b>16 BLOCKS</b> 11:45 / 2:15 / 4:45 / 7:15 / 9:45
<b>THE LAST HOLIDAY</b> 1:50 / 4:20 / 6:50 / 9:20	<b>YOURS, MINE &amp; OURS</b> 12:50 / 3:00 / 5:10 / 7:20 / 9:30	<b>DATE MOVIE</b> 1:30 / 3:30 / 5:30 / 7:30 / 9:30
<b>THE FEARLESS</b> 12:30 / 2:40 / 4:50 / 7:00 / 9:10	<b>CASANOVA</b> 2:00 / 4:30 / 7:00 / 9:30	<b>FINAL DESTINATION 3</b> 12:50 / 3:00 / 5:10 / 7:20 / 9:30

**MIMALL CINEMAS**

<b>16 BLOCKS</b> 12:40 / 3:10 / 5:40 / 8:10	<b>THE FEARLESS</b> 1:25 / 1:35 / 3:45 / 5:55 / 8:05	<b>DATE MOVIE</b> 12:30 / 4:30 / 6:30 / 8:30
<b>TIGER BLADE</b> 12:20 / 2:20 / 4:20 / 6:20 / 8:20	<b>THE DARK</b> 11:50 / 2:00 / 4:10 / 6:20 / 8:30	<b>DOLBY DIGITAL</b> <b>5.1</b> <b>SDS</b>

For ticket inquiries, please call TicketNet at 911-5555 or log on to [www.ticketnet.com.ph](http://www.ticketnet.com.ph)

**ARANETA COLISEUM**

<b>HERMANS HERMITS - PETER MOORE CONCERT</b> MARCH 17, FRIDAY 8 PM	<b>SERGIO MENDES &amp; BRASIL 2006</b> MARCH 18, SATURDAY 8 PM
---	---

IN THE ACTION TRADITION OF 'HEAT'!

WHILE THE HEADLINES ARE BEING BROADCAST, THE WORST SCENARIO IS HAPPENING.

**JOHNNIE TO BREAKING NEWS**

Starring RICHIE JEN, KELLY CHEN, NICK CHEUNG, CHEUNG SUN FAI  
Directed by JOHNNIE TO

IN THEATERS TOMORROW

**glorietta** **GREENBELT** **ALABANG TOWN CENTER** **AYALA CENTER CEBU** **MARKET! MARKET!** **Ayala Malls**

**AT THE CINEMAS**

Reserve your tickets by texting SURVEILLANCE G3 or SURVEILLANCE G4 to 3333 (Monday to Friday) or log on to [www.surveillancemovie.com](http://www.surveillancemovie.com) for web reservations.

<b>G1</b>	1 DATE MOVIE	2 16 BLOCKS	3 UNDERCLASSMAN	4 THE DARK
<b>G4</b>	1 CASANOVA	2 YOURS, MINE & OURS	3 16 BLOCKS 1:30, 3:45, 6:00, 8:15, 10:30 GUARANTEED SEATS	4 16 BLOCKS
<b>GB1</b>	1 DATE MOVIE	2 CASANOVA	3 16 BLOCKS 2:30, 4:45, 7:00, 9:15, 11:30	4 16 BLOCKS
<b>GB3</b>	1 DATE MOVIE 1:40, 3:35, 5:30, 7:25, 9:20, 11:15 GUARANTEED SEATS	2 16 BLOCKS 2:30, 4:45, 7:00, 9:15, 11:30	3 16 BLOCKS 1:20, 4:15, 6:40, 9:05, 11:30 GUARANTEED SEATS	4 YOURS, MINE & OURS 2:50, 5:00, 7:10, 9:20, 11:30 GUARANTEED SEATS
<b>ATC</b>	1 16 BLOCKS	2 CASANOVA	3 16 BLOCKS	4 16 BLOCKS
<b>ACC</b>	1 16 BLOCKS	2 DATE MOVIE	3 YOURS, MINE & OURS	4 ST. ANGE
<b>M2</b>	1 16 BLOCKS	2 YOURS, MINE & OURS	3 UNDERCLASSMAN	4 CASANOVA

**At the Activity Center**

Customer Service toll hotline: 0917 6095900  
Customer Service Numbers: Glorietta - 752 7272; from 10am to 8pm  
Greenbelt - 752 4853; from 11am to 12pm

<b>GLORIETTA</b>	<b>ALABANG TOWN CENTER</b>
BPI Installment Madness March 15-31, 2006	Anson's Emporium Exhibit March 12 to 31, 2006
<b>AYALA CENTER CEBU</b>	<b>MARKET! MARKET!</b>
USC College of Architecture & Fine Arts' Annual Exhibit March 15, 2006	Woman's Today Summer Picks Event March 16, 2006

**Ayala Greenbelt's Chocolate Festival**  
February 13 to March 16, 2006

**Onstage!**  
Performances: March 24, 25, 26, 27, April 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9  
For inquiries, pls. call 887-0718

**Ayala MUSEUM**  
Come & view the 26th ASIAN INTERNATIONAL ART EXHIBIT  
For inquiries, please call 757-7117 to 21 loc 26.  
Or visit [www.ayalamuseum.org](http://www.ayalamuseum.org)

**Lovemall!** **BPI EXPRESS CREDIT**

**2mad about'emall!**  
Just Got Bigger and Better!

Shop in Ayala Malls using your BPI Express Credit Card for a chance to win a Nissan Patrol 4x4 in the Grand Draw and fabulous prizes in the Monthly Draws.

From November 25, 2005 to March 31, 2006

**0% S.I.P.**

**NISSAN PATROL**

Get ready and pack your things for the coolest destinations this summer!

Buy 2 movie tickets at Glorietta 1, Glorietta 4, Greenbelt 1, and Greenbelt 3 Cinemas to get 1 raffle coupon, fill up, and drop at drop boxes at the ticket booths.

Deadline of all raffle entries is on May 15, 2006.  
Drawing of winner is on May 26, 2006.  
Winners will be notified by registered mail and phone call.

Special thanks to:

Per DTI NCR Permit No. AT-200 Series of 2006

**AYALA MALLS CINEMAS Trippin' in 80 days**

**FREEDOM! FOREVER!**

**V FOR VENDETTA**

NATALIE PORTMAN HUGO WEAVING

OPENS MARCH 15 AT AYALA MALLS CINEMAS



## Why Sexbomb quit 'Bulaga'

WHAT'S THE STORY BEHIND THE STORY OF Sexbomb's leaving "Eat Bulaga?"

An insider told me that it could be because of SB's new member, Sugar, said to be the "current pet" of hosts Joey de Leon and Vic Sotto.

The two usually make fun of Sugar in the show until she cries—and the audience laps up Sugar's "crybaby" antics. In short, she has become the center of attention.

I asked Sexbomb manager Joy Cancio for the real score but she didn't reply.

Sugar reportedly doesn't want Joy to manage her, and would rather be handled by TAPE, the show's producer.

Maybe Joy feels "E.B." is playing favorites, so she pulled out her group. Or is there a deeper reason than this?

Without "Eat Bulaga" there would be no Sexbomb to begin with. How could a girl named Sugar make things turn sour? The crybaby seems to have the last laugh. But maybe this is a blessing in disguise for the girls. Now the Sexbomb can blast in other horizons.

**DOLLY WOOD**



**Dolly Ann Carvajal**

### Daddy Monsour

Got this text from my "bro" Monsour del Rosario: "My son Matthew Lorenzo Z. del Rosario was born March 7, Monday at 9:38 a.m. He is so white. Weighs about 6.8 lbs, 2.8 kilos. He's got muscles na and is looking already. He is 19 inches long with a big d-ld I can't hold! Cool!"

Congrats Mon! You've been such a wonderful mentor to so many kids in your taekwondo school. Now you've got your reward in Matt!

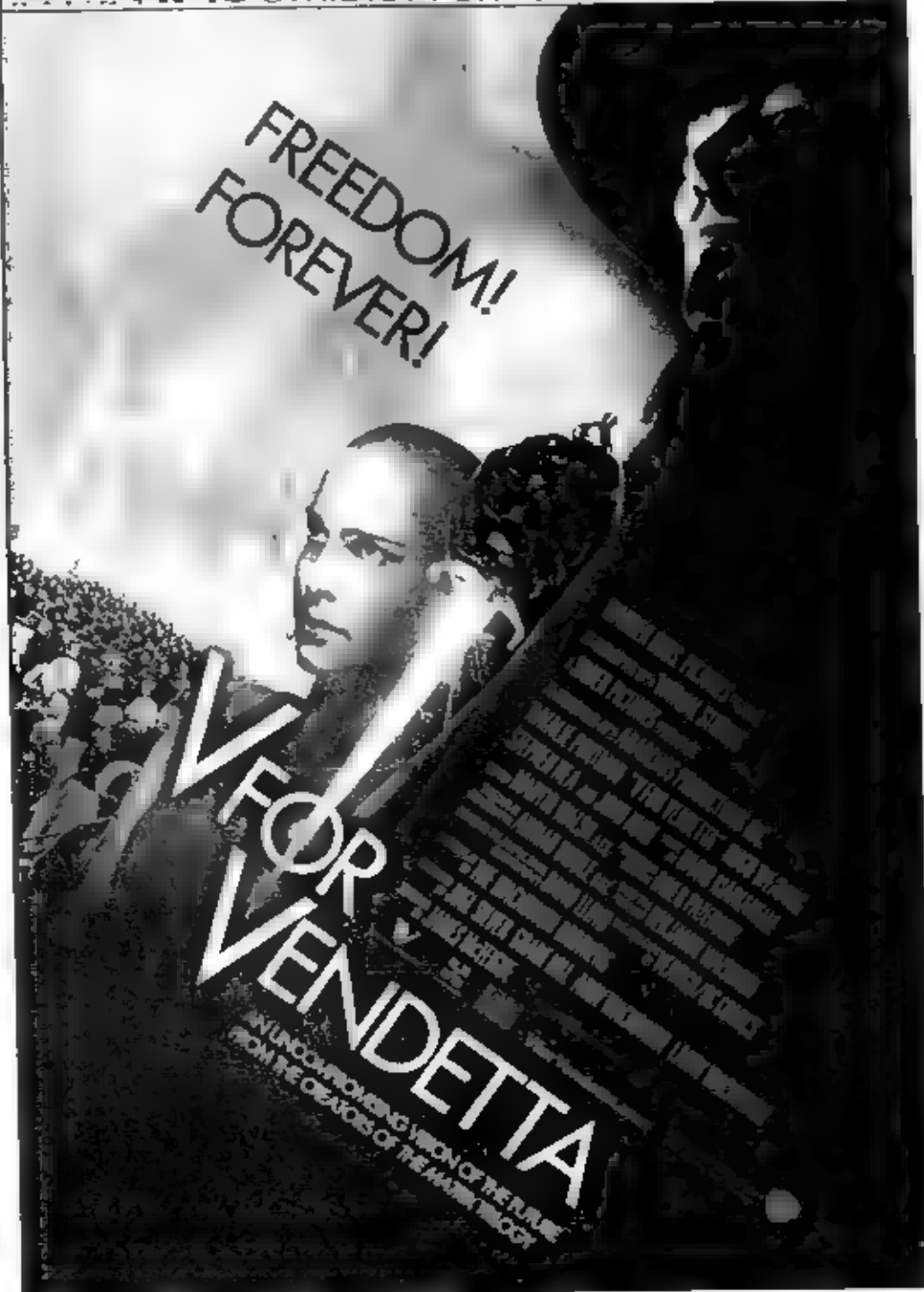
### Pia's 'stalker'

There's this e-mail circulating from weng.pacis@gmail.com which goes "Mag-ungay kay Pia Guanio." Here are portions of it:

WHY/A2-1

## REVOLUTION BEGINS TOMORROW

MPAA R-13 STRICTLY FOR 13YRS OLD AND ABOVE



**EASTWOOD CINEMAS**  
DIGITAL CINEMA

Eastwood City Walk 2, Eastwood City  
E. Rodriguez Jr. Ave. (C-5) Quezon City

For inquiries, call  
**687-6963**  
GUARANTEED SEATS  
MOVIES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE WITHOUT PRIOR NOTICE

<b>CASSANOVA</b>	1:00, 3:10, 5:30, 7:50, 10:20 R-13
<b>YOURS, MINE AND OURS</b>	1:55, 4:10, 6:25, 8:40, 11:00 GP
<b>16 BLOCKS</b>	1:20, 3:45, 6:10, 8:35, 11:00 PG-13
<b>LAST HOLIDAY</b>	2:15, 5:15, 7:55, 10:35 GP

**NOW SHOWING**  
MPAA R-13 STRICTLY FOR 13 YEARS OF AGE AND UP

**AMERICA THERE'S 'THE AMITYVILLE HORROR'...  
IN THE U.K. THERE IS 'THE DARK'...**

**A GRIEF-STRIKEN FAMILY,  
A TRAGEDY-HAUNTED HOUSE ON THE  
CLIFFS OF WALES AND A SMALL  
TOWN'S SECRET HISTORY**

In an attempt to pull her family together, New Yorker Adele Tullian travels with her daughter Sarah to Anglesey, Wales in the U.K. to visit her contractor father - James Tullian.

The morning after they arrive, Sarah mysteriously vanishes. While the parents desperately search for Sarah, a guilt-ridden Adele is haunted by visions of her daughter as though she is trapped somewhere inside the haunted house. Adele soon learns of an ancient local legend of a place called The Dark - an ethereal land of the dead - and she becomes convinced that Sarah is communicating to her from The Dark.

Not long after Sarah disappears, Adele and James find themselves involved with a girl who not only bears a striking resemblance to their missing daughter, but reveals that she has returned from the dead to inform them on how to get Sarah back. They must follow the rule: "one of the living, for one of the dead. The living must be sacrificed so that the dead can return. Townsfolk suspect that the Tullians are succumbing to the legacy of madness and murder that overwhelmed the house's previous tenants."

**THE DARK**  
SEAN BEAN MARIA BELLO

**Pinaka pizza** **Pizza Hut** presents

# sergio mendes & brasil 2006

a celebration of his timeless hits

live in manila  
special guest: mitch valdez

mar. 18 / 8pm / arneta coliseum

got a chance to

## win tickets

any of the following:

- meet & greet w/ sergio mendes
- Sergio Mendes CD

for a minimum P700 purchase at Pizza Hut

promo period: march 10 - 15, 2006

See poster flyers for details. (Prizes voided on 2006 and over)

Per DTI-NCR permit no. 0500 series of 2006.

**GREENHILLS CINEMAS**  
THEATRE

**PROMENADE**

**CASANOVA**  
10:30, 12:55, 3:20, 5:45, 8:10, 10:35  
R-13

**LAST HOLIDAY**  
1:15, 3:40, 6:05, 8:30, 10:55  
GP

**3 YOURS, MINE & OURS**  
GP

**4 DATE MOVIE**  
R-13

**5 16 BLOCKS**  
10:15, 12:40, 3:05, 5:30, 7:55, 10:20  
PG-13

FOR INQUIRIES & RESERVATION, PLS. CALL: 721-6726 OR 721-0435

**3RD WEEK**  
MPAA R-13 STRICTLY FOR 13 YEARS OF AGE AND UP

**THE #1 MOVIE IN MANILA!**

Can You Predict Your Own Death?

When? Where? How?

Find Out...

# FINAL DESTINATION 3



**DELL**  
Optiplex 310C

Business managed PC with proven reliability, standard performance for affordable desktop computing.

Call ICS now for more info!

**INTEGRATED COMPUTER SYSTEMS, INC.**  
Tel. (632) 727-3881 www.ics.com.ph

# BUSINESS

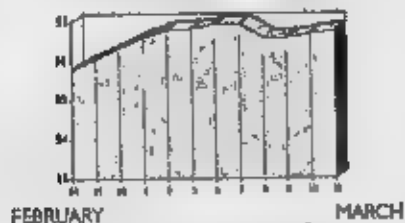
Editor Raul O. Marcelo • Assistant Editor Corrie S. Narisma

Text us your feedback: inquirer.biz name/age/city/message to 2207 (Globe) or 283 (Smart) E-mail: pr\_business@inquirer.com.ph

From Pagudpud to Sorsogon  
1114 km  
on just one full tank

**XTRA**  
Actual test results in a sport vehicle, as certified by the Automobile Association of the Philippines and Car Awards Group, Inc.

## INDICATORS CURRENCIES



**P \$1.24 = \$**  
As of 5 p.m., March 13, 2006

**Y 118.82 = \$**  
As of 5 p.m., March 13, 2006

**GOLD: \$543.80-544.30**

per ounce Hong Kong, March 13, 2006

## STOCK MARKET

### Shares close 0.87% higher

SHARE PRICES YESTERDAY CLOSED 0.87 percent higher on last-minute bargain hunting in select stocks, dealers said. The composite index rose 18.39 points at its

SHARES/B3

## Gov't '05 debt up 2%, settling at over P3.89T

THE NATIONAL GOVERNMENT'S OUTSTANDING debt settled at P3.89 trillion as of end-December 2005, registering a 2-percent increase from the P3.81 trillion recorded a year ago.

According to analysts, fiscal officials continue to resort to borrowings to plug the budget gap.

Of the latest debt figure, domestic liabilities accounted for P2.164 trillion, or 8.1 percent higher than the previous year's. Domestic borrowings are usually done through regular auctions of government securities and direct loans incurred by government agencies.

GOV'T/B3

# T-bill rates fall across the board

## Decline reflects 'comfort' of a market awash in cash

By Michelle V. Romo

**TREASURY BILL RATES** declined across the board yesterday, reflecting the "comfort" of a market still awash in cash while the government's fiscal standing continues to improve.

The benchmark 91-day T-bill rate dropped 23.3 basis points to 5.017 percent. The three-month bill was more than three times oversubscribed, with tenders reaching P4.14 billion compared with the government's debt offering of only P1 billion per T-bill.

The 182-day bill fetched 6.073 percent, or 4.1 basis points lower than the rate set in the auction two weeks ago. Bids for the six-month government security reached P4.535 billion, making it more than three times oversubscribed.

The rate for the 364-day bill settled 10.3 basis points lower to 7.083 percent. Tenders for the one-year debt instrument was the highest, reaching P7.2 billion.

"This is a reflection of the liquidity circulating in the financial system and the comfort of the market, buoyed by the government's positive fiscal position in January," National Treasurer Omar Cruz yesterday told reporters.

The Bureau of the Treasury's auction committee accepted P3 billion worth of bids, thereby raising its entire borrowing requirement.

Cruz said the high level of liquidity in the market was partly attributed to the huge volume of T-bill and Treasury bonds, worth P5.5 billion, that are set to mature this week.

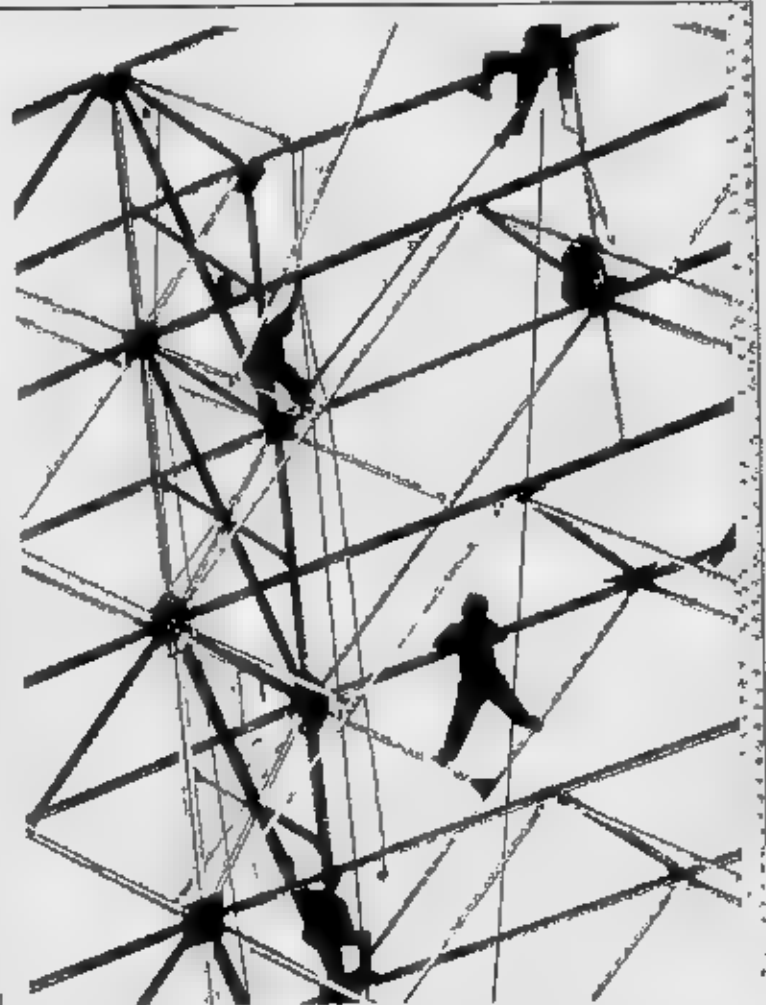
Some banks usually reinvest proceeds of maturing government securities in T-bills and bonds, so the volume of bids for newly issued government securities is added to the huge volume of maturing securities.

T-BILL/B3

## HIGH-WIRE

These men appear to be breaking the law—of gravity, that is—as they put up another billboard on Edsa while they maintain a tenuous hold on the scaffold. A large portion of the highway has turned into a commercial landscape, where advertisers get to pitch products that range from over-the-top apparel to underwear deodorants.

12M/BILLION



## WHAT'S INSIDE

### Review of RP mining law worries foreign investors

/B2

### NTC moves to help hasten RPN, IBC privatization

/B3

## Peso goes against Asia currency downtrend

By Doris C. Dumlaog

THE PESO YESTERDAY BUCKED THE downtrend among most other currencies in Asia against the US dollar.

The Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas earlier said the local currency was still "slightly undervalued."

After hitting a high of \$1.205/\$1, and a low of \$1.345/\$1, the peso firmed up

at \$1.24 yesterday from Friday's \$1.30 to the US dollar.

Tagged last year as Asia's best performing currency after it surged by 6 percent to \$3.09/\$1, the peso continues to rally. Since the start of the year, it has gone up nearly 3.5 percent or P1.85 against the greenback.

"There's a healthy two-way trade," said Marcelo Ayes, chief foreign ex-

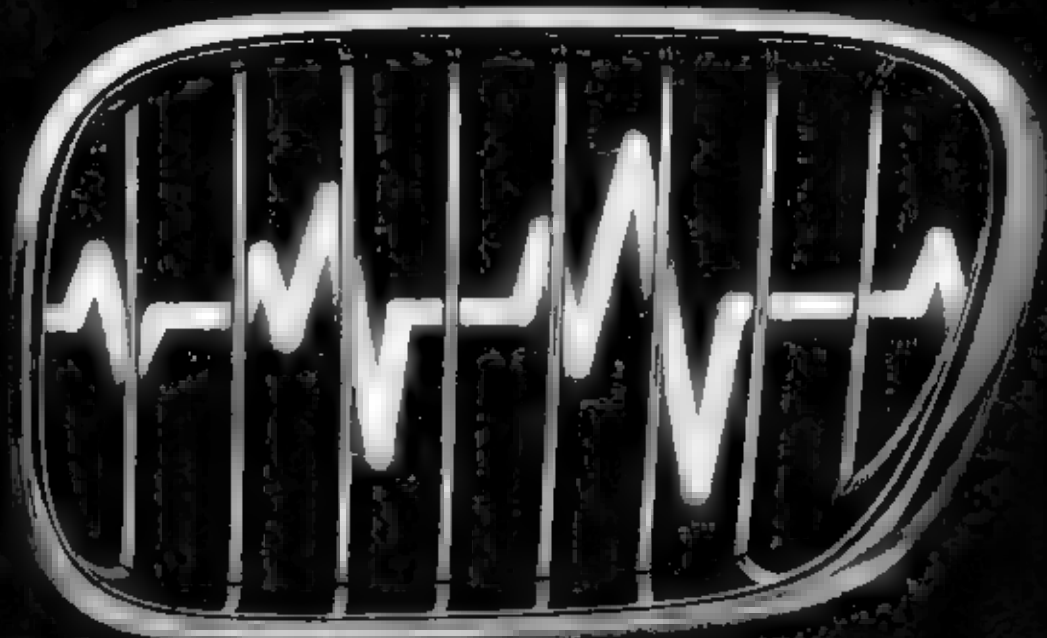
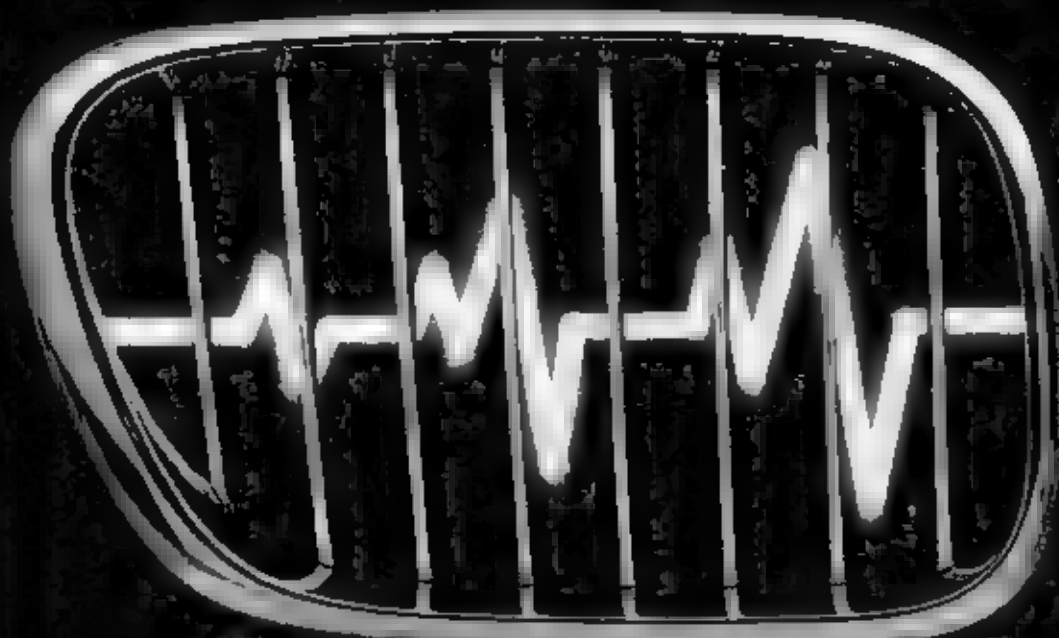
change dealer at Equitable PCIBank.

Ayes said some corporate requirements from the oil and manufacturing sectors cropped up yesterday. He said that most dollar users have found the current rates to be attractive.

On the other hand, most Asian currencies fell on profit-taking yesterday, while the US dollar was perked up by news on

PESO/B3

## Adrenaline Rush. The BMW Xpo Month.



Announcing a series of BMW dealer activities highlighted by an exciting BMW Central Event.

**BMW**  
**Xpo**  
**2006**

### BMW Xpo Month Activities

March 1 to 31, 2006

All authorized BMW Dealerships

- 50% downpayment, 0% interest on selected BMW models
- 10% downpayment, 7 years financing on all BMW models
- Chance to win 1 year worth of fuel from Petron for every BMW purchase
- Individual dealer activities

### BMW Xpo Central Event Activities

March 17 to 19, 2006

BMW Pavilion, Bonifacio Global City, Taguig

- New model introduction
- Chance to win a brand new BMW X1 for every fuel pump
- Corporate gifts for BMW Xpo Central Event

Event Partners:

Drive Dream

BMW

BMW of the Philippines



# Review of RP mining law worries foreign investors

## Move may jeopardize efforts to attract capital

THE PHILIPPINES IS TRYING TO reassure foreign investors they have nothing to fear from a review of the country's mining law but analysts say the surprise move has spooked foreign firms vital to the industry's revival.

The government said on Monday that the reexamination of the law, which allows for full foreign ownership of local mines, was simply to address environmental concerns raised by the country's Catholic bishops and not a rewrite of ownership rules.

"If it needs to be amended to strengthen the implementation of the environmental issues then it will have to be amended," Economic Planning Secretary Romulo Neri said.

He said the bishops had sought a review of the law "to ensure that it has more teeth."

Last Friday, the government announced it would conduct a 30-day review of the law but any amendment would take longer

because it would have to be debated by Congress.

The country is dependent on foreign investors to tap an estimated \$1 trillion in mineral wealth. However, analysts say the government's apparent willingness to rewrite laws could jeopardize efforts to attract \$6.5 billion in funding for the mining sector.

"That's not good news for the Philippines, there was a perception that policy was going the other way," Ted Leschke, mining analyst for Shaw Stockbroking in Sydney, said.

"From a geological standpoint, the Philippines is A-1, but if they keep changing things, miners will go to Mongolia or somewhere else."

The Philippines ranks in the world's top five for its deposits of copper, nickel and iron ore and is geographically closer to resource-hungry China than the region's other major mining center, Indonesia.

In the 1970s and 1980s, the

country hosted one of the biggest mining industries in the world but two decades of neglect, environmental mishaps and clashes over land rights have seen its potential stunted.

Political instability has also deterred prospectors from pouring money into the Philippines, where there have been more than a dozen coup attempts since the ousting of former dictator Ferdinand Marcos in 1986.

"The Philippines will need to demonstrate significant changes in the way the country is run to attract a meaningful level of foreign mining investment. That clearly is not happening," Keith Goode, director of Eagle Mining Research of Australia, said.

Local communities, particularly those reliant on fishing, are concerned about the danger from mining.

Australia's Lafayette Mining became the first foreign firm in nearly four decades to develop a

Philippine mine but cyanide leaks last year triggered a wave of anti-mining protest, particularly among the mainly Catholic country's bishops.

The Chamber of Mines of the Philippines said it was not worried about the review because it was unlikely that the law would be altered significantly.

"Anything to tighten up environmental protection is welcome," said Benjamin Philip Romualdez, president of the chamber and also head of Benguet, the country's oldest miner.

The government said it would await the recommendations of a fact-finding commission headed by bishop Arturo Bastes that looked into the Lafayette leaks before completing its review.

Arroyo also wants mining companies to devote at least 10 percent of capital expenditures to fund environmental expenses and to spend 3-5 percent of direct mining and milling costs for annual environmental programs. *Reuters*

## 21 expected to vie for PSE board seats

By Elizabeth L. Sanchez

### Waterfront seen spending P150M for hotel upgrade

SHAREHOLDERS OF WATERFRONT PHILIPPINES Inc. led by the family of plastics manufacturer William Gatchalian will spend P150 million for the continued renovation of the old Holiday Inn Manila Pavilion Hotel along United Nations Avenue in Manila.

Waterfront corporate director for sales Jose Mari Bernardino recently told reporters that renovation work this year will cover 22 floors of the old Holiday Inn Manila.

Last year, the renovation project covered four floors of the 540-room hotel.

Renovation work is also ongoing at the Waterfront Hotel in Cebu City.

The hotel's occupancy rate—which stood at between 60 and 70 percent—is expected to be temporarily affected by ongoing renovations.

Waterfront is upbeat that it can grow its sales by 20 percent this year despite the renovation due largely to the expected increase in tourist arrivals and in revenues from food and beverage at the Manila Pavilion.

Waterfront's acquisition of a controlling stake in Manila Pavilion in 2004 was in line with the expansion plans for its hotel and casino operations.

The Manila Pavilion is a 600-room hotel with 2,000 square meters of gaming area. Waterfront owns and operates three hotels—two in Cebu and one in Davao.

Elizabeth L. Sanchez

TWENTY-ONE CANDIDATES WILL VIE FOR the Philippine Stock Exchange's 15 board seats during the bourse's annual elections on April 8.

Of the total, 12 are nominated for the seven seats reserved for brokers, while nine candidates are up for the eight seats reserved for non-brokers.

Five of the seven seats for brokers will represent the "big brokers," or those with value turnover and paid up capital of more than P500 million. The two other seats are to be occupied by representatives of "small brokers," or those with value turnover and paid up capital of less than P500 million.

In the meantime, the PSE list of nominees, which was released last Friday, has generated concerns from certain brokers, who claimed that some of the expected candidates were not on the list.

PSE director William Ang of Astra Securities Corp. is questioning the disqualification by the PSE nominations and elections committee of former PSE governor and Tekute broker Joseph Roxas.

Roxas was nominated by Ang to the board as a representative of small brokers.

Ang said the nominees were not informed of the reason behind their disqualification, leading him to believe that Roxas was bumped off on a "mere technicality." Roxas formally accepted his nomination after 12 noon of March 8, the deadline set by the PSE.

However, Ang claimed he was informed by PSE lawyer and Nomelec member Aissa Encarnacion that the deadline was extended to 5 p.m. of the same day.

Ang said he would ask Nomelec to reconsider its decision.

PSE officials were unavailable to comment on this issue as of press time.



ROXAS

The nominees for the "big broker" category are Ang (of Astra Securities Corp.), Vivian Yuchengco, Robert Coyuto Jr., Eddie Gobing of Lucky Securities, Alejandro Yu of R.S. Lim & Co., Myron Timothy Pape of Papa Securities, Edwin Jay of Tricon Securities Corp., Paul Wee of Accord Capital Equities, Maria Limingan of Regina Capital Development Corp. and Conrado Bate of CiticOnline.

Francisco Villaroman of Securities Specialists Inc. and Rodolfo Cruz of HK Securities were nominated for the "small brokers" category.

The nominees for the non-broker seats include Anabelle Chua of PLDT Beneficial Trust Fund, Amor Ilacupdez of the San Miguel Corp. Retirement Plan, Roy Joseph Rafois (to represent the interest of the Government Service and Insurance System), Robert Atendido to represent market participants, PSE chair Jose Virug, Cornelio Peralta formerly with Kimberly Clark, Jose Luis Javier and Javier Quintos.

PSE president Francis Lim was nominated to remain the bourse's president-director.

## PHILIPPINE STOCK EXCHANGE

STOCK	OPEN	HIGH	LOW	CLOSE	VOLUME
(As of March 12, 2000)					
FINANCIAL BANKS					
Aetna Bank Inc.	3.75	3.75	3.75	3.75	10,000
Barco de Oro Bank	3.75	3.75	3.75	3.75	10,000
Bank of the Phil. Islands	3.75	3.75	3.75	3.75	10,000
China Banking Corp.	3.75	3.75	3.75	3.75	10,000
Chiyu Bank Inc.	3.75	3.75	3.75	3.75	10,000
Equitable Bank Inc.	3.75	3.75	3.75	3.75	10,000
Equitable PCI Bank Inc.	3.75	3.75	3.75	3.75	10,000
International Exch. Bank	3.75	3.75	3.75	3.75	10,000
Metropolitan Bank & Trust	3.75	3.75	3.75	3.75	10,000
Philippine National Bank	3.75	3.75	3.75	3.75	10,000
Rural Bank, Banking Corp.	3.75	3.75	3.75	3.75	10,000
Security Bank Corp.	3.75	3.75	3.75	3.75	10,000
Union Bank of the Phil.	3.75	3.75	3.75	3.75	10,000
OTHER FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS					
First Metro Invest. Corp.	23.5	23.5	23	23	5,000
Marine Finance Corp.	32.40	32.40	32.40	32.40	1,000
Ph. Surety & Ind. Corp.	145	145	145	145	15,000
Sun Life Financial Inc.	2200	2200	2200	2200	1,000
Swingline Corp.	0.79	0.79	0.79	0.79	2,100,000
INDUSTRIAL					
ELECTRICITY, ENERGY POWER & WATER					
First Gen Corp.	44	44	43	43	8,200
First Phil. Hops Corp.	40.5	40.5	39.5	40	47,800
Manila Electric Co. A	12.75	12.75	12.75	12.75	38,900
Manila Electric Co. B	19.25	19.3	18.25	19.5	25,800
Manila Water Co. Inc.	6.4	6.4	6.3	6.4	5,620,000
Palayan Corp.	4.5	4.55	4.4	4.45	1,350,000
East Asia Power Res. Corp.	0.215	0.215	0.215	0.215	17,000
Trans-Asia Oil and Energy	0.91	0.91	0.9	0.9	170,000
FOOD, BEVERAGE & TOBACCO					
Ginebra San Miguel Inc.	19.25	19.25	18.5	18.3	15,700
Julius Foods Corp.	35.5	36.5	35.5	36	17,100
Pancake House Inc.	3.5	3.75	3.5	3.75	134,000
RFI Corp.	0.7	0.75	0.7	0.7	14,000
San Miguel Corp. A	61.5	61.5	61	61.5	40,400
San Miguel Corp. B	80	80	79	80	40,400
Universal Robina Corp.	17.5	17.75	17.25	17.25	1,029,400
Valrich Corp.	0.28	0.28	0.28	0.28	200,000
CONSTRUCTION, INFRASTRUCTURE & ALLIED SERVICES					
Boracay Island Development	0.29	0.29	0.28	0.29	70,000
Engineering Equip. Inc.	1.22	1.22	1.18	1.18	1,250,000
Holcim Philippines Inc.	4.15	4.25	4.15	4.25	7,000
Republic Cement Corp.	0.8	0.9	0.8	0.9	1,230,000
CHEMICALS					
Interphil Labs Inc. B	0.8	0.8	0.8	0.8	30,000
Macubay Vinyl Corp.	0.75	0.75	0.75	0.75	270,000
DIVERSIFIED INDUSTRIALS					
Global Equities Inc.	0.0675	0.0675	0.0675	0.0675	9,000,000
Pico Resources Inc.	0.075	0.075	0.075	0.075	2,000,000
Panasonic Mfg Phil Corp.	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7	1,000,000
Steel Manufacturing	0.48	0.48	0.42	0.42	1,310,000
HOLDING FIRMS					
Abacus Con. Res. & Hldg. A	0.0075	0.0075	0.0075	0.0075	14,000,000
Abacus Corp.	33.5	34.5	33.75	34.0	17,100
Alsons Con. Res. Inc.	0.51	0.51	0.51	0.51	50,000
Aboteco Equities Inc.	0.024	0.024	0.024	0.024	3,500,000
Aboteco Holdings Inc.	2.46	2.46	2.46	2.46	1,000
APC Group Inc.	0.205	0.205	0.2	0.2	70,000
Alcom Gold Res. Corp.	0.007	0.007	0.0065	0.0065	206,000
Anglo Pacific Holdings Corp.	0.86	0.87	0.84	0.87	2,260,000
Benguet Holdings Corp.	0.53	0.53	0.51	0.52	2,260,000
Phil. Holdings Inc.	0.38	0.38	0.38	0.38	8,000
Phil-Estate Corp.	0.21	0.21	0.2	0.2	42,000
Rhinovest Dev. Corp.	2.26	2.26	2.24	2.26	67,000
J.G. Securities Holdings Inc.	0.31	0.31	0.3	0.31	12,000
Manila Holdings Corp.	0.011	0.011	0.011	0.011	10,000
Primestar Phil. Inc.	0.25	0.25	0.245	0.245	3,140,000
Shinophill Corp.	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.25	1,000
SM Investments Corp.	0.06	0.06	0.06	0.06	1,000,000
Unilab Res. & Holdings Co.	0.125	0.125	0.125	0.125	100,000
Westco Industries Inc.	0.125	0.125	0.125	0.125	100,000
PROPERTY					
Ayala Land Inc.	10.75	11	10.5	11	4,927,600
Belle Corp.	0.95	0.95	0.95	0.95	1,000,000
Crown Equities Inc.	0.225	0.225	0.225	0.225	4,570,000
Devel. Holdings Inc.	1.76	1.82	1.76	1.76	2,000
C & P Homes Inc.	1.56	1.58	1.56	1.56	30,000
Cebu Prop. Vent. A	0.95	0.95	0.95	0.95	40,000
Cyber Bay Corp.	0.22	0.22	0.22	0.22	5,700,000
EIS Realty Developers Inc.	0.22	0.225	0.22	0.225	9,160,000
Empire East Land Inc.	0.45	0.47	0.45	0.48	50,000
Empire East Land Inc.	0.028	0.028	0.028	0.028	2,900,000
Empire East Land Inc.	0.21	0.21	0.21	0.21	90,000
Kuce Properties	1.42	1.46	1.42	1.44	4,090,000
Megawac Corp.	0.33	0.33	0.32	0.33	3,000,000
M. P. Holdings Inc.	0.33	0.33	0.33	0.33	36,200,000
Phil. Real Estate Holdings	0.225	0.23	0.22	0.23	3,500,000
SM Development Corp.	1.4	1.4	1.4	1.4	3,000
SM Prime Holdings Inc.	7.7	7.7	7.5	7.6	4,909,000
Unilab Holdings Inc.	0.13	0.13	0.13	0.13	1,310,000
TELECOMMUNICATIONS					
ABS-CBN Broadcasting Corp.	11.25	11.25	11.25	11.25	8,000
Digital Telecom Phils Inc.	0.88	0.88	0.88	0.88	220,000
Globe Telecom Inc.	815	815	815	815	1,200,000
Phil. Tel. Co. Inc.	1825	1825	1825	1825	63,320
Phil. Long Dis. Tel. Co.	1825	1825	1825	1825	63,320
INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY					
Boonlaid Holdings Inc.	0.9	0.9	0.9	0.9	3,300,000
Ionics Inc.	1.24	1.24	1.24	1.24	1,200,000
Island Info and Tech Inc.	0.048	0.048	0.048	0.048	1,000,000
ISM Communications Corp.	0.05	0.05	0.05	0.05	25,200,000
Phil. Tel. Co. Inc.	0.024	0.024	0.024	0.024	25,200,000
TRANSPORTATION SERVICES					
Int'l Container Term. Sv.	12.25	12.25	12	12.25	818,800
Kapitel Phils. Marine Inc.	0.88	0.88	0.88	0.88	100,000
HOTEL & LEISURE					
Acele Hotel Corp.	4.5	4.5	4.4	4.4	227,000
Laureate & Resorts Corp.	1.76	1.76	1.74	1.76	1,200,000
Waterfront Phils. Inc.	0.38	0.4	0.38	0.4	1,330,000
EDUCATION					
Centro Escolar University	800	800	800	800	25,000
Far Eastern University	315	315	315	315	840
People Inc.	315	315	315	315	24,000
DIVERSIFIED SERVICES					
Microcosm Corp.	1.4	1.4	1.4	1.4	20,000
Paysis Inc.	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	3,000
Philcomat Holdings Corp.	0.82	0.82	0.82	0.82	70,000
MINING					
Aboteco Mining Corp. A	0.98	0.98	0.97	0.98	850,000
Aboteco Mining Corp. B	1.14	1.14	1.14	1.14	185,000
Aboteco Mining Corp. C	0.0065	0.0065	0.0065	0.0065	17,000,000
Aboteco Mining Corp. D	0.8	0.8	0.8	0.8	1,000,000
Aboteco Mining Corp. E	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	1,000,000
Aboteco Mining Corp. F	0.024	0.024	0.024	0.024	5,500,000
Aboteco Mining Corp. G	0.0055	0.0055	0.0055	0.0055	25,000,000
Aboteco Mining Corp. H	0.0055	0.0055	0.0055	0.0055	25,000,000
Aboteco Mining Corp. I	1.78	1.78	1.78	1.78	22,000,000
Aboteco Mining Corp. J	1.82	1.82	1.82	1.82	22,000,000
Aboteco Mining Corp. K	2.7	2.7	2.5	2.5	5,500
Aboteco Mining Corp. L	0.26	0.26	0.26	0.26	200,000
Aboteco Mining Corp. M	0.31	0.31	0.31	0.31	350,000
OTHER					
Basic Consolidated Inc.	0.235	0.235	0.235	0.235	1,600
Orion Per. & An. A	0.008	0.008	0.0075	0.0075	102,000
Orion Per. & An. B	0.008	0.008	0.008	0.008	2,000
The Provident Corp. A	0.48	0.48	0.48	0.48	50
PREFERRED					
PLDT (10% Pref) Series W	10.75	10.75	10.75	10.75	100,000
WARRANTS, PHL. DEPOSIT RECEIPTS, ETC.					
ABS-CBN Hldgs. Corp. (PDR)	11.75	11.75	11.3	11.5	8,000
SHARES					
Industrial	15,000,410				537,244
Holding Firms	239,640,380				396,474
Property	75,760,600				24,434
Service	35,375,531				76,327
Mining & Oil	215,445,500				1,417,685
GRAND TOTALS	607,862,100				
AVERAGES					
Financial	6.0				
Industrial	3,044.31				
Holding Firms	1,029.89				
Property	1,029.91				
Service	2,354.48				
Mining & Oil	1,301.58				
Composite	2,121.78				
NO. OF ADVANCES 36; NO. OF DECLINES 44; NO. OF UNCHANGED 48; NO. OF TRADED 125; NO. OF RAGES 3.79					



TUESDAY, MARCH 14, 2006

# NTC moves to help hasten RPN, IBC privatization

By Daxim L. Lucas

## Finding best way to dispose of 2 networks

**BROADCAST REGULATORS**, state privatization officials and their financial advisers are set to formulate a plan that would hasten the privatization of two sequestered broadcast stations.

Speaking to reporters on Monday, National Telecommunications Commission (NTC) chief Ronald O. Solis said financial advisers for the privatization program had sought a meeting with regulators to help move the long-delayed sale forward.

"I understand they're doing due diligence on [these stations] now," he said, referring to the government's financial adviser CLSA Exchange Capital Corp.

"They're exploring the [modes of] disposal for channels 9 and 13."

The government has long been trying to privatize its stakes in the Radio Philippines Network and the Intercontinental Broadcasting Corp. It sequestered these broadcast outfits from personalities linked to the late strongman Ferdinand E. Marcos.

Solis said the nature of the discussions would be exploratory but they were expected to help the government formulate a more concrete privatization plan.

In particular, the discussions will attempt to determine the best way to dispose of RPN-9 and IBC-13.

The meeting will help clarify whether the privatization will involve the sale of the companies

lock, stock and barrel or only their assets. Offering them for lease is another option.

Recently, PDLT chair Manuel V. Panguluan confirmed his interest in the broadcast outfits, but said he was more interested in their assets, rather than assuming the entire operations that included the stations' liabilities.

To date, the government's privatization committee under the finance department has yet to come up with a firm valuation for both RPN-9 and IBC-13.

Solis said that it was too premature to speculate on whether the two stations would be bundled and sold as one entity, although he did

concede that it was a possibility, depending on the structure that would be chosen by the financial advisers.

"Eventually, they'll have to ask our permission when the plan is ready," he said, when asked about the possibility of bundling the two stations as one.

There are, however, other unresolved issues which the government is trying to get out of the way to push the privatization effort forward.

Last week, the finance department said that the privatization of RPN-9 would not push through as scheduled because the sequestered television station still has to settle back taxes with the Bureau of Internal Revenue and address issues

concerning its workforce.

Finance Undersecretary Gabriel Singson Jr., who monitors the privatization program, said the financial adviser on the sale of RPN-9 recom-

mended that the government postpone the sale until after the TV station's obligations have been settled.

The same issues are hindering the attempt to dispose of IBC-13.

## T-bill rates fall ...

From page B1

Cruz said that the Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas is not likely to raise key policy rates soon, because the expected slowdown in inflation in the second half may exert a downward pressure on the interest rates of government securities.

The Department of Finance earlier announced that the national government's budget deficit stood at P15.4 billion in January, or P5.5 billion better than the official target set at P20.9 billion.

get set at P20.9 billion.

Officials said the January deficit data kept government well on track to meet its full-year target of reducing the fiscal gap to P125 billion in 2006 from P146.5 billion last year.

They likewise expressed optimism that the medium-term target of reducing the deficit to zero by 2008 would be achieved.

Cruz said that the February fiscal data will be announced on Thursday.

## Peso goes against ...

From page B1

Currency traders said the BSP's comment propped up the peso yesterday, as the market took it as a sign that the BSP would remain "tolerant" of the peso's sharp gains against the US dollar.

BSP Governor Amando Tetangco Jr. earlier said that the peso, which had surged to a three-and-a-half year high to the dismay of exporters and some economists, is still "slightly undervalued" in terms of purchasing power parity.

Cruz said that the February fiscal data will be announced on Thursday.

Cruz said that the February fiscal data will be announced on Thursday.

## Gov't '05 debt up 2% ...

From page B1

Foreign obligations had a P1 723-trillion share of the total debt figure, or 4.8 percent lower than the year-ago level. The Finance department had explained that the decline in foreign debt was due to the fiscal strategy of favoring more domestic borrowings over external ones to avoid foreign exchange risks.

Government resorts to foreign borrowings usually through official development assistance extended by multilateral and bilateral agencies. The Philippines' biggest ODA creditors are the World Bank, the Asian Development Bank and the Japan Bank for International Cooperation.

Foreign debts are also incurred through the flotation of foreign-denominated government securities, which accounts for P53.2 bil-

lion of the total debt figure.

National Treasurer Omar Cruz noted that the government's debt-to-GDP (gross domestic product) ratio improved to 72 percent as of end 2005 from the previous year's 79 percent.

Debt-to-GDP ratio measures how fast debt grows relative to the growth of an economy. Last year's decline in ratio meant that the GDP growth outstripped the increase in government debt.

The budget deficit hit P146.5 billion last year, better than the P180-billion target and lower than the P187 billion recorded in 2004.

The Bureau of Treasury also announced that the government's contingent debt stood at P586.4 billion as of end-2005, registering a 29.7 percent reduction from the P833.7 billion recorded the previous year.

Michelle V. Remo

## Shares close 0.87% ...

From page B1

the US dollar in mid-day trade. SM Investments was top-trading. It closed up P3 at P217 while unit SM Prime Holdings retreated 10 centavos to P7.60.

Philippine Long Distance Telephone led the main index's rally, closing P35 higher at P1,835, tracking the rise of its American Depository Receipts in New York Friday.

the US dollar in mid-day trade. SM Investments was top-trading. It closed up P3 at P217 while unit SM Prime Holdings retreated 10 centavos to P7.60.

Philippine Long Distance Telephone led the main index's rally, closing P35 higher at P1,835, tracking the rise of its American Depository Receipts in New York Friday.

Avail of **20%** special discount on

### BREAST ULTRASOUND

From P600.00 to P400.00! Promo available for METRO MANILA walk-in patients only

**What and Why?**  
It's a non-invasive procedure that uses sound waves to produce a picture of the internal structures of the breast. Breast ultrasound does not use x-rays, so it's safe for pregnant women. This procedure is done to evaluate a breast lump found on breast self-examination, physical examination or mammogram. It is also done to evaluate the breasts in younger women because their breast tissue is often more dense, and a mammogram may not show sufficient detail.

This health info is brought to you by the,  
**FIRST and ONLY ISO 15189 & ISO 9001**  
Certified Medical Lab in the Philippines!

[www.hi-precision.com.ph](http://www.hi-precision.com.ph)

Main Ofc. QC: 413-7950  
East Ave. QC: 438-1097  
Manila: 523-9084  
Las Pallas City: 875-0597  
Cebu City (032): 265-4133

HI-PRECISION diagnostics

TRV Accredited  
Promo period March 14 - April 30, 2006. For DTI NCR Permit #1955, series of 2006.

### PHOENIX MATERIAL HANDLING

MADE BY STEEL

Rolling System • Shelving Systems • Gondolas • Pallets • Carts • Trolleys

**PHI 1000**

3-2004-00001 3-2004-00002  
3-2004-00003 3-2004-00004  
3-2004-00005 3-2004-00006  
3-2004-00007 3-2004-00008  
3-2004-00009 3-2004-00010

SELECTIVE RACKING SYSTEM DRIVE-IN

GUARANTEE of limitation, unauthorized manufacture of patented pallets shall be prosecuted

**H-STAR**  
Tel. # 672-2870 to 77 • Fax # 672-2890 to 91  
E-mail: phoenix@hstar-ph.com • www.hstar-ph.com

### Take advantage of PSBank's HIGH \$ RATES

	\$1,000 to \$9,999	\$10,000 to \$49,999	\$50,000 to \$99,999	\$100,000 and up
1 month	3.0000%	3.1250%	3.2500%	3.2500%
2 months	3.1250%	3.2500%	3.3750%	3.3750%
3 months	3.2500%	3.3750%	3.3750%	3.4375%
6 months	3.2500%	3.3750%	3.4375%	3.5000%
12 months	3.3750%	3.4375%	3.5000%	3.6250%

\*Quoted rates are subject to change without prior notice. Rates are on per annum basis and subject to 7.5% withholding tax.

Open an account now at an PSBank branch nationwide!

**US Dollar TIME DEPOSIT**

Text PSBANK USD0 <your name> <your hotline no.> <your email address> then send to 2327 for Globe or 0917-8902327 for non-Globe users.

Member of the Philippine Deposit Insurance Corporation. Maximum deposit insurance for each depositor P250,000.

For your **QUALITY** Office Machine needs...

Call us at: **722-8888**

**ELITE** Machine's etc.

Our new address:  
**1465 Golden Bldg., E. Rodriguez St. Ave., Quezon City**

Same Price Nationwide  
**MANILA • CEBU • DAVAO**

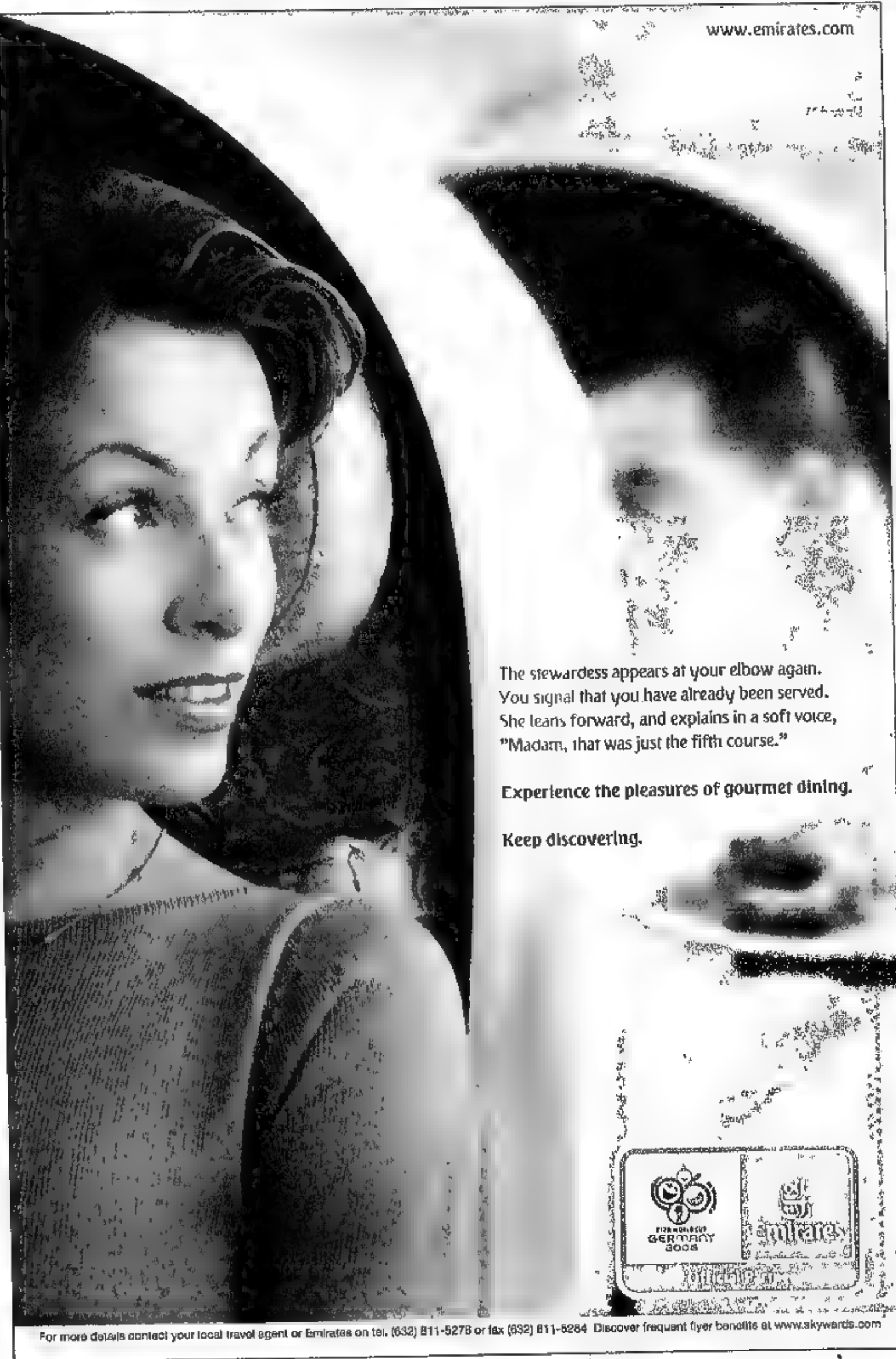
Office Branches:  
**ELITE**  
3300 Bldg., 22 San Gil Puyat Ave., Quezon City 8677336 / 8677338 / 8677339 / 8677340

**Canon** DIGITAL COPIERS  
**olivetti** Copiers • Typewriters • Fax • Calculators  
**Intimus** Paper Shredders • Overhead Projectors  
**OFFICE** Supplies • Ink Ribbons • Calculator • Clock • Water • Carrying Case • etc. • etc. • etc.  
**KATUN** Compatible Copier Supplies  
**NIKKO** Electronic Calculators  
**MINOLTA** Original Supplies

334 Pacific Bldg. 444 Quezon Paredes Ctr. Quezon City 2474030 / 2474031 / 2474032 / 2474033 / 2474034 / 2474035 / 2474036 / 2474037 / 2474038 / 2474039 / 2474040 / 2474041 / 2474042 / 2474043 / 2474044 / 2474045 / 2474046 / 2474047 / 2474048 / 2474049 / 2474050 / 2474051 / 2474052 / 2474053 / 2474054 / 2474055 / 2474056 / 2474057 / 2474058 / 2474059 / 2474060 / 2474061 / 2474062 / 2474063 / 2474064 / 2474065 / 2474066 / 2474067 / 2474068 / 2474069 / 2474070 / 2474071 / 2474072 / 2474073 / 2474074 / 2474075 / 2474076 / 2474077 / 2474078 / 2474079 / 2474080 / 2474081 / 2474082 / 2474083 / 2474084 / 2474085 / 2474086 / 2474087 / 2474088 / 2474089 / 2474090 / 2474091 / 2474092 / 2474093 / 2474094 / 2474095 / 2474096 / 2474097 / 2474098 / 2474099 / 2474100

334 Pacific Bldg. 444 Quezon Paredes Ctr. Quezon City 2474030 / 2474031 / 2474032 / 2474033 / 2474034 / 2474035 / 2474036 / 2474037 / 2474038 / 2474039 / 2474040 / 2474041 / 2474042 / 2474043 / 2474044 / 2474045 / 2474046 / 2474047 / 2474048 / 2474049 / 2474050 / 2474051 / 2474052 / 2474053 / 2474054 / 2474055 / 2474056 / 2474057 / 2474058 / 2474059 / 2474060 / 2474061 / 2474062 / 2474063 / 2474064 / 2474065 / 2474066 / 2474067 / 2474068 / 2474069 / 2474070 / 2474071 / 2474072 / 2474073 / 2474074 / 2474075 / 2474076 / 2474077 / 2474078 / 2474079 / 2474080 / 2474081 / 2474082 / 2474083 / 2474084 / 2474085 / 2474086 / 2474087 / 2474088 / 2474089 / 2474090 / 2474091 / 2474092 / 2474093 / 2474094 / 2474095 / 2474096 / 2474097 / 2474098 / 2474099 / 2474100

[www.emirates.com](http://www.emirates.com)



The stewardess appears at your elbow again. You signal that you have already been served. She leans forward, and explains in a soft voice, "Madam, that was just the fifth course."

Experience the pleasures of gourmet dining.

Keep discovering.

For more details contact your local travel agent or Emirates on tel. (632) 811-5278 or fax (632) 811-5284. Discover frequent flyer benefits at [www.skywards.com](http://www.skywards.com)



"Death is the opening of a more subtle life.  
In the flower, it sets free the perfume,  
in the chrysalis, the butterfly; and in man, the soul."

## Evelyn Ongsansoy-Marcelo

went home to be with Jesus on Sunday, March 12, 2006, at the age of 71. She leaves to cherish her memories, children and their spouses Attaboy and Nini, Raul and Yvonne, Willy and Jenny, Estela and Frankie, and Rey; grandchildren Kim Gerard, Kim Arthur, China Mei, Kimberly, Cyan, Eliz, Ralph, Raya, Jedfred, Jelyn, and Karen, and a multitude of relatives, friends, colleagues and neighbors. They shall forever remember her kindness, selflessness and thoughtfulness.

Her earthly remains lie at the Arlington East Garden Chapels, C. Raymundo corner Mercedes Ave., Pasig City. Interment will take place at the Evergreen Memorial Park, Mercedes Ave., Pasig City, on Saturday, March 18, 2006 after the 9 a.m. Mass.

\* Please omit flowers.

Come to Me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest. Matthew 11:28

"Dad you are gone.  
But for us you never left  
God has you in His Keeping  
We have you in our heart  
We love you"

### (Ret.) Judge Francis J. Militante

CFT Judge-Tandag, Surigao del Sur  
RTC Judge - Branch 12 Cebu City

peacefully joined his Creator on March 11, 2006  
at the age of 85.

Spouse: Aludia Pace Militante (†); children, Jimmy & Christie, George, Connie & Sid, Tessa, Herbie, Gerry & Atel, Grace & Eddie, Marilou, Cherry, Ferdie & Chin-Chin, Anna Marie, Jojo & Susan, grandchildren: Matt, Jay-o & Sam-Sam, Kaycee, Brian & Kathleen, Nifio, Stephanie & Chick-Chick, Dominic & Dustin, Frances & Francine, Jason & Joey

His remains lie in state at the Divine Mercy Chapel A, Sacred Heart Church, Cebu City. Interment will be on Friday, March 17, 2006 at the Cebu Memorial Park after the 1:00 p.m. Mass at the Sacred Heart Church, D. Jakosalem St., Cebu City.

Novena Masses are held everyday at 8:00 p.m.

Contact person: Anne (0920-9238979)

Militante Residence: 19 Benedicto St., Cebu City



### LA FUNERARIA PAZ, INC.

Tel. Nos. Quezon City: 712-3601 • 743-6502  
Manila: 711-6931 to 35

NAME OF DECEASED	PLACE OF BURIAL	DATE & TIME	INTERMENT CREMATION
NELIA FRANCISCO	Chapel K, Q.C.	to be announced	Imus Municipal Cem., Cavite
VILLARDO S. REDILLAS	Chapel C-12, Q.C.	03/15/06, 1:30 p.m. mass at 3:00 p.m.	Heritage Memorial Park, Makati

For your Classified Ads requirements, call our  
Classifieds Advertising HOTLINES:

HEAD OFFICE: 897-8808 loc. 514, 516, 899-4425;  
897-2535; 897-8425 (Telefax)

CUBAO: 912-9008 to 11 (Aurora)

MAKATI: 892-5578; 811-4361; 811-4370

KALAW: 528-0213; 527-3342

MEGAMALL: 635-0219; 635-0220

## THE HERITAGE PARK FORT BONIFACIO

Let our Funeral Home & Crematory ease your burden

- Elegant & Spacious Chapels •US-made Caskets •Catered Meals
- Flowers by Holland Blooms •Imported Registry Books & Thank You Cards •Personalized Guest Information Cards
- Horse-drawn Hearse or Cadillac De Ville Hearse •Obituary Ads

845-2440 • 845-2334 to 38

### Dalisay J. Aldaba

September 9, 1912 - March 13, 2006

Our butterfly is survived by siblings Diwata, Jaime and Benjamin. She joins Juan, Lualhati, Amadito, Estefania, Enrique, Homobono, Rodolfo and other family members.

Her remains may be viewed at Santuario de San Antonio, Forbes Park. Burial Mass will be at Capilla de Señor, Wednesday, March 15, at 9:00 a.m.

Tutto questo avvenire, le lo prometto. Tienti la tua paura, io con sicura fede lo aspetto.  
Un Bel di, Vedremo, G. Puccini

## CLASSIFIEDS

### Immediate Vacancy

Applications are invited for the Post of  
**Interpreter / Clerk / Typist**  
at an Embassy in Manila for Degree Holders, at least 3 years experience in office procedures and excellent skills in English and Computer Literacy.

Fax resume at 8439813  
before the 20<sup>th</sup> March 2006.

More Classified Ads on  
pages A2, A20 & A24.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the MetroBank savings accounts of the late DIVINA B. PERALTA was adjudicated thru Extra-Judicial Settlement by her surviving heirs and shall be released thru S.P.A. Jesus B. Peralta as per Doc. No. 390, Page 77, Book IV, Series of 2006, of Notary Public Henry S. Banares, ARN 19348.  
PDI-March 14, 21 & 28, 2006

### AUCTION SALE

Manila-Filinvest Pawnshop M & R Bldg. Tasinghlog, Manila Bul. All unredemmed pledges of Sept. 2005 will be auctioned on Mar 23, 8:00 a.m. Laruza & Sons Auctioneer  
PDI-March 14, 2006

### AUCTION SALE

Meycauayan-Filinvest Pawnshop, Alay Complex, Calvario, Mayaguez, Bulacan All unredemmed pledges of Sept. 2005 will be auctioned on March 23, 10:00 a.m. Laruza & Sons Auctioneer  
PDI-March 14, 2006

### CARMA CLINIC

#### MD SPECIALIST

CONDOMINIA, SPORTS, SYNDROME, STD, HERPES

#### ADULT ORGASMS

Palawan, Bicolandia

#### SKIN DISEASES

ALLERGIES RE-CURRENT

INFERTILITY, IMPOTENCE

Carma Bldg. No. 11 Purde St., Cubao, Q.C.

TEL. NOS. 4392704

4373896/9139474

### NFA continues rice issuances in calamity areas

NATIONAL FOOD AUTHORITY ADMINISTRATOR Gregorio Y. Tan, Jr. informed that the food agency has already issued a total of 4,017 bags of rice for relief operations to the Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD), National Disaster Coordinating Council (NDCC), Philippine National Red Cross (PNRC), non-government organizations (NGOs), legislators and the local government units in the calamity areas of Southern Leyte, CARAGA region and Davao Oriental. Of the total volume of rice releases, 2,474 bags have been issued to Southern Leyte, 1,468 bags for the CARAGA region and 20 bags to Davao Oriental. The rice issuances are covered by a memorandum of agreement (MOA) between and among NFA,

the relief institutions and local government units. The MOA is for the supply of the rice needs of residents in the areas affected by natural calamities and other emergencies. Tan said. He also assured that the NFA has sufficient stocks of rice in Southern Leyte totaling 65,986 bags which is estimated to last for 15 days based on the daily consumption requirement. Based on the latest report, the CARAGA region has 175,842 bags, sufficient for ten days supply at the daily consumption requirement of 17,932 bags. The supply and prices of rice in the affected areas remain normal due to sufficient rice inventory of both the NFA as well as the private sector. For more info, Text NFA Program at 0917-6210927

## People, Events & Products

### Apcac 2006 meeting

THE AMERICAN CHAMBER OF COMMERCE IN THE Philippines will host the Asia-Pacific Council of American Chambers of Commerce (Apcac) 2006 meeting at the Makati Shangri-la Hotel on March 15-17. With the theme "Is the World Really Flat?", the event will give local and international delegates opportunities to network with peers from around the Asia-Pacific region, meet fellow members of AmCham Boards of Governors, both senior executives from multinational corporations and entrepreneurs that have developed substantial Apcac-based businesses.

### 2007 Panasonic scholars

THE PANASONIC GROUP OF COMPANIES IN THE Philippines, is now accepting applicants for the 2007 Panasonic Scholarship Program. The program is open to all medically fit, Filipino citizens not older than 28 as of April 1, 2006, and a university graduate who must have completed at least 15 years of formal study. Applications will be accepted up to April 30. For more details, visit Panasonic's website at <http://www.panasonic.com.ph/aboutus/sc/sch.htm> or e-mail at [pmpe\\_scholarship@ph.panasonic.com](mailto:pmpe_scholarship@ph.panasonic.com). Applicants can also call at (049)520-8500 locals 8596 or 8597; (02)635-2260 local 2811 for inquiries.

### 30th Nat'l Milo Marathon

NOW ON ITS 30TH YEAR, THE NATIONAL MILO Marathon will make its way to 30 cities nationwide, giving an even greater number of Filipinos the opportunity to adopt and enjoy an active lifestyle. It will be held on the following dates in the following cities: Feb. 5 in Tagbilaran, Feb. 12 in Batangas, Feb. 19 in Dumaguete, Feb. 28 in Puerto Princesa, Palawan, March 5 in Lucena, June 25 in Roxas, July 2 in General Santos, July 9 in Cavite, July 16 in Manila, July 23 in Bacolod, July 30 in Davao, Aug. 6 in Naga, Aug. 13 in Olongapo/Subic, Aug. 20 in Laguna, Aug. 27 in Cebu, Sep. 3 in Butuan, Sep. 10 in Iloilo, Sep. 17 in Cagayan de Oro, Sep. 24 in Tarlac, Oct. 1 in Legazpi, Oct. 8 in Zamboanga, Oct. 15 in Dagupan, October 22 in Tacloban, Oct. 29 in San Fernando, La Union, Nov. 5 in Iligan, Nov. 12 in Dipolog, Nov. 19 in Nueva Ecija, Cabañatuan and Nov. 26 in Santiago, Isabela.

### Holy Land pilgrimage

REV. FRANCIS LEGASPI, A RENOWNED HEALING priest, is leading a pilgrimage group to the Holy Land from May 22 to June 2. Aside from retracing the steps of Jesus Christ, other historical places in Egypt, Jordan and Israel will also be visited. During the twelve day tour, Fr. Corsie will be saying mass in some biblical places and conduct healing sessions as well. Those interested may please contact the following: Salve cell no. 0917-4110164 or tel/fax no. 825-2819 Alice tel. no. 829-9600/829-0537

### MMC's 5th post grad course

THE MAKATI MEDICAL CENTER'S DEPARTMENT OF Medicine will hold its 5th Post Graduate Course "Metabolic Syndrome: A Multi-Disciplinary Concern" on March 15 at the Ledesma Hall, 9th Flr., Makati Medical Center. The course which will be held from 7 a.m. to 3:45 p.m., will tackle the problems of metabolic syndrome from various sub-specialty points of view. For more information, call 752-2521

### Godiva summer promo

JOIN THE GODIVA SUMMER GETAWAY RAFFLE Promo. With every purchase of specially-marked Godiva SunCare Products (60 g. Green Tea Sunblock or Godiva Sea Sunblock), you and your loved ones get a chance to enjoy a vacation spree at the Red Coconut Beach Resort (Boracay), La Carmela de Boracay, Maribago Bluewater Beach Resort (Cebu), Puerto Azul Golf & Country Club (Batangas), or White Rock Beach Resort (Subic) for free. Promo runs until April 28. See posters and print-ads for details.

### The Real Bank chair feted

THE REAL BANK CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD OF directors, Jose G. Araullo, was honored by the San Beda College Alumni Association as he was elevated to the San Beda Hall of Fame in Accountancy during the annual Red and White Ball last Feb. 17, along with the late Speaker Ramon Mitra Jr. (Government Service), the late Aurelio O. Parquet Jr. (Business Industry) and the late Senator Raul S. Roco (Government Service). Araullo is an alumnus of SAC Batch '55 (high school) '59 (col-

lege) and has established his name in the field of accountancy as he co-founded the Punong-bayan and Araullo Audit ng Firm, now one of the top auditing firms in the country, grounded on skill and experience he gained working for top positions in various financial institutions.

### Power Plays book launch

BUSINESSWORLD COLUMNIST AND HIGHLY RESPECTED corporate executive Antonio R. Samson dishes out sage advice on how to survive the corporate jungle in his latest book, *Power Plays: Notes from the Corporate Bench*. It will be launched today, 8 p.m. at Central Books on the second floor of Goodwill Bookstore in Gloria 3, Ayala Center, Makati City. It is the first book from Finnegan-James Media, the big new idea in independent publishing. For more information, contact: [finnegan.james.media@gmail.com](mailto:finnegan.james.media@gmail.com).

### Omron's Digital Blood Pressure Monitor Checker

TO GIVE CLIENTS A MORE RELIABLE SOURCE when it comes to accurate blood pressure readings, Omron introduces the Philippine's first and only blood pressure monitor checker - Omron PA-350. It is created to check if Omron blood pressure monitors are still accurate and can still give consistent blood pressure result. The Omron PA-350 supports the following groups of Omron blood pressure monitors: upper arm professional; upper arm; wrist types including the applicable different cuff types. Collins Int'l Trading Corp is the exclusive distributor of Omron Healthcare Products and is the proud owner of the first and ever Digital Blood Pressure Monitor Checker in the country. For more information about Omron BP Checker PA-350, call their Advance Service Center at 681-6166. For inquiries about other Omron products, call Collins Int'l at 681-6161/681-6163; fax: 646-5979/681-6162. Or simply log-on to [www.collins-international.com.ph](http://www.collins-international.com.ph) or e-mail at [marketing@collins-international.com.ph](mailto:marketing@collins-international.com.ph).



### BANCO DE ORO AWARDS GRAND WINNER

Banco de Oro recently awarded the first of twelve monthly prizes of one-year worth of P20,000, P10,000 and P5,000 SM gift checks to 16 lucky winners in its 'All-Year Free Shopping Raffle Promo' at The Concourse, SM Makati. The gift checks are honored at any SM Supermarket, Department Store and SM affiliates. Shown are (from left): BDO

VP for marketing Edith Dychiao, BDO SVP and region head of branch banking group, Gerry Diaz, BDO endorser Marvin Agustin, BDO executive vice president for branch banking group, Jimmy Yu, grand prize winner lawyer Bienvenido Quiñones, BDO president Nestor Tan, and BDO endorser Jethro Dionisio and David Charlton.

### ARISTOCRAT OPENS AT SM SAN LAZARO

The Aristocrat Restaurant, now on its 70th year, recently held its grand opening at the 2nd level of SM San Lazaro in F. Huertas corner Lacson St. Sta. Cruz, Manila. The event was graced by the Reyes family spearheaded by (from left) Victor Reyes, Aristocrat chair and CEO, special guest Cory Quirino, Nena Reyes, Mercedes Reyes, Raymond Reyes, Aristocrat president and COO and party hidden in photo Gille Zakamanga. For details in their franchising program, contact Carol Timbol at 524-7671 loc. 247



### THIRD AVENUE AT BLACKBEARD'S

Third Avenue performs at Blackbeard's Seafood Island. Visit its branches at Market! Market! Fort Bonifacio and Unit 28-31 Shopwise Arcade Gen. Mc. Arthur cor Times Square Ave. Arangala Ctr. Cubao





# Coco bio-diesel sales weak in Mindanao, says firm

## Flying V traces sluggish cocodiesel sales to lack of information among motorists

DAVAO CITY—THE USE OF ALTERNATIVE fuels has not picked up as fast as expected here, according to a local oil company.

Edwin Clapano, officer-in-charge of Flying V in the Visayas-Mindanao area, said that more than two months since coco-bio-diesel was launched here, it has yet to be fully accepted by the motoring public.

The government has been pushing alternative fuels, such as biodiesel, to cushion the impact of skyrocketing prices of petroleum products.

Clapano said the lack of public awareness could be one reason why sales of bio-diesel have been sluggish.

Clapano said Flying V stations, which total 17 in Mindanao, sell an average of 150,000 liters of bio-diesel a month.

But he said the company needed to sell more for bio-diesel to be viable.

"Since the propagation of the alternative fuel, major companies are still reluctant to support the coco-bio-diesel project," Clapano said.

He added that a presidential directive mandating government agencies to use bio-diesel for their vehicles could only do so much.

Clapano blamed the problem on the usual red tape.

"We cannot rely on the government consumption for our products because of the time

involved in processing documents. Also it is not wise to depend on (the government) for sustainability," he said.

Clapano said Flying V has already lowered the product's price to entice the public to use more of it.

In this city, Flying V stations sell bio-diesel at about P33.78 a liter. Regular diesel, on the other hand, sells for about P33.17 a liter.

Aside from reducing prices, Clapano said Flying V also planned to go into a more aggressive marketing campaign to drum up support for the use of alternative fuels.

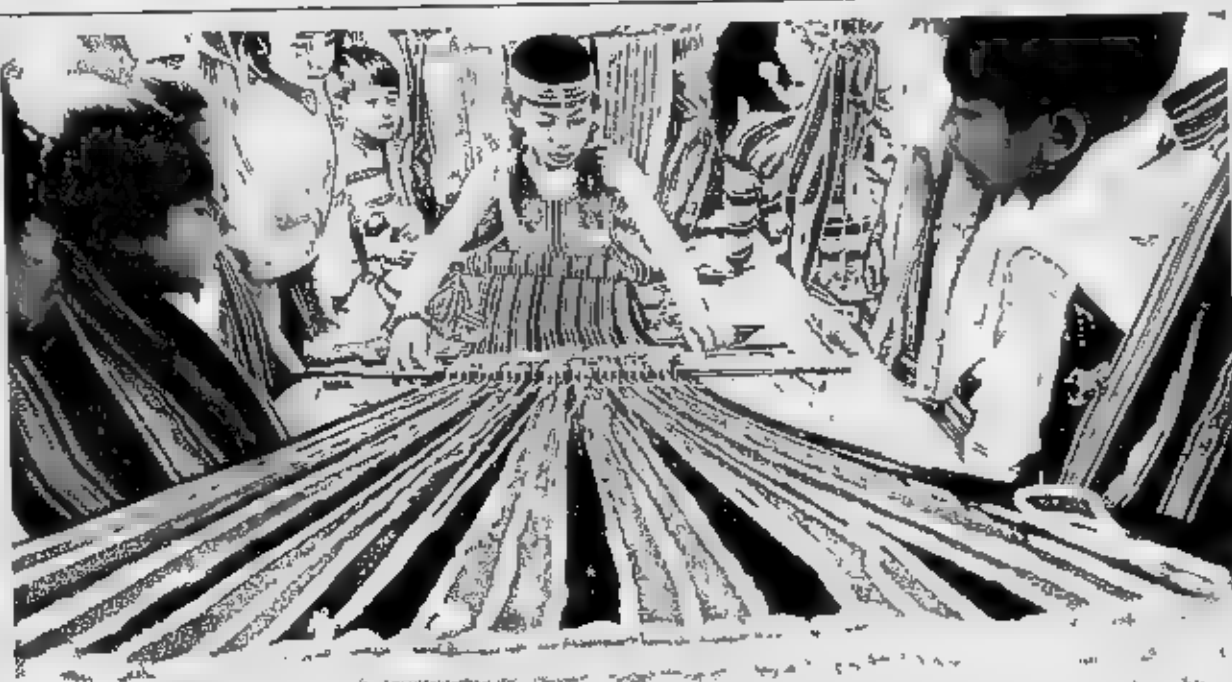
Coco bio-diesel had been extensively tested by national and international scientific agencies.

Tests proved that the use of bio-diesel resulted in significant savings, dramatic reduction in harmful smoke emissions and enhanced engine performance.

"It also provides a major boost to the coconut industry," Clapano said.

Flying V earlier disclosed plans to invest in more pumps selling alternative fuels, hoping to increase the share of coco methyl ester (CME)-blended diesel to as much as 40 percent of total diesel sales this year.

Flying V chair Ramon Villavicencio earlier said biodiesel in 2005 accounted for between 15 and 20 percent of the oil firm's total diesel sales. *Judy Quiros, PDI Mindanao Bureau*



### SEEING RED

A Kalinga child from Lubuagan, Kalinga, shows her peers how to weave. The many-colored skirts worn by Kalinga women sell for between P600 and P1,000 each.

PHOTO BY EV ESPINOSA

## ARMM students learning more via text

COTABATO CITY—FOR CHILDREN in the war-torn areas of the Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao (ARMM), text messaging goes beyond just sending jokes and love notes.

It allows their teachers to bring better English, science and mathematics into their classrooms just by using a phone.

This thanks to the Text2teach technology brought in by the Education and Livelihood Skills Alliance (Elsa) of corporate social arms and humanitarian organizations.

The technology was started in 2003 by the US-based International Youth Foundation (IYF) in collaboration with Nokia, Pearson and the United Nations Development Program (UNDP) Global Support System.

The system integrates digital satellite broadcasting and mobile phone communication, allowing the transmission of video learning materials directly to the classroom and on a 36-inch TV screen.

Last month, Elsa organizational representatives said the program has been expanded to include English in ARMM.

Mayor Muslimen Sema cited Cotabato City's public schools for posting the highest mean gain score among eight pilot provinces nationwide.

This means that the students here learned the most using the technology among the provinces covered by the program.

IYF's Nancy Sheppard, Elsa program manager, said the program provides disadvantaged schools with cutting-edge learning materials through media-rich mobile technology.

To some 720 trained teachers, text messaging enabled them to produce 360 new lesson plans, align with national standards for math, science and English, and produce instructional videos for English classes with the help of

Pearson, Elsa representatives said.

ARMM Gov. Zaldy Uy Ampatuan commended the program organizers and the active Muslim youth participation, saying the alliance "will surely survive the test of time as it helps young leaders gain greater sense of awareness and appreciation of their personal gifts and potentials and limits as well as their leadership values and principles."

"The political leaders in the autonomy are one in endorsing and supporting this with nothing but full confidence in the pooled energy of its leaders and the strong vision for the active involvement of the greater mass of the people - the young," Ampatuan said in a statement read by ARMM Information Director Samson Gogo.

IYF, Sheppard said, works "to identify young people's most pressing needs and aspiration, and supports effective programs to be able to address them."

Elsa, a convergence of various organizations, including IYF, is a three-year program that has led to the construction of 28 new classrooms; upgrading and renovation of 27 classrooms; provision of desks and chairs for 27 classrooms, and 277 medical kits for rural nurses and midwives.

Elsa's other member organization are Ayala Foundation Inc., Consuelo Foundation, Petron Foundation Inc., the Philippine Business for Social Progress, and the southeast Asian Ministers of Education Organization Regional Center for Educational innovation and technology.

The corporate social arms of these firms helped provide the system's hardware for Grades 5 and 6 pupils in 15 schools in Batangas, 13 in Cotabato City, 10 in Quezon City and each in Manila and Laguna.

The group's alternative learning system (ALS) has also brought 300 out-of-school youth back to school,

providing them with integrated technical courses that match skills development activities with industry needs.

Elsa representatives said 1,814 were also provided with study grants, and 1,470 children of school age benefited from the group's supplemental feeding program.

Fifteen-year-old Rowena Usop of the Talayan Municipal High School told her story of renewed hope to pursue a college education in medical field with science laboratory facilities that Elsa had provided her school.

Dr. Thomas J. Kral, chief of the US Assistance for International Development Philippine Mission's Education Office, said his office had partly funded the facility out of its aid program for the country, which ranges from \$600-900 million a year. *Nash B. Maudana, PDI Mindanao Bureau*

## MSI PAYROLL

It ensures FAST, COMPLETE and ACCURATE computation of payroll & generation of government reportorial requirements.

### OTHER PRODUCTS:

MSI PIS (Personnel Information System), MSI DTR (Daily Time Recording) PROFIT Retail Systems (POS/Sales Manager, Inv., A.R. & P.O.)

For inquiries on Profit Retail System call: 734-8858 • 736-6763 • 738-4892

METROSOFT, INC.

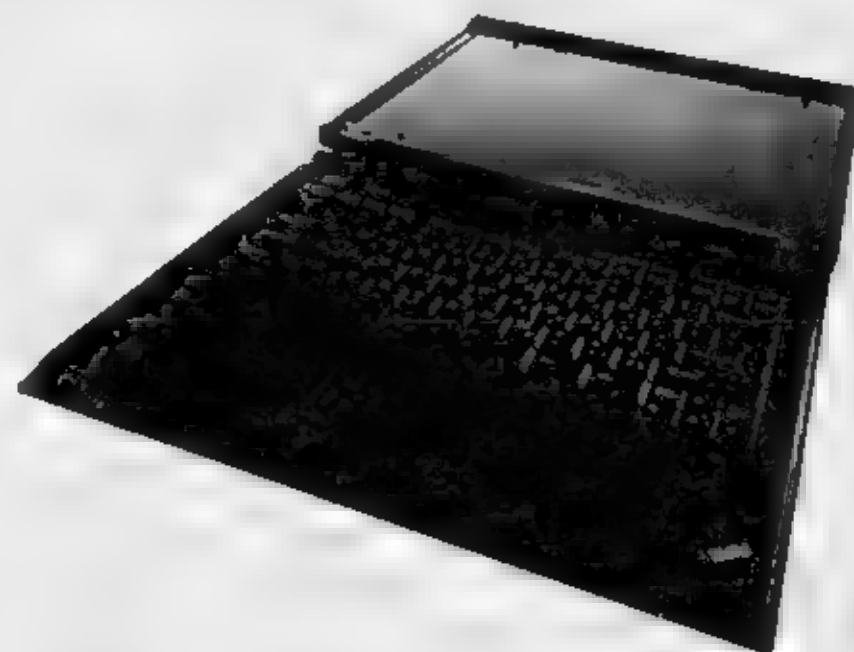
LG1 Cityland 9, Dela Rosa Condo, Dela Rosa St., Makati City  
Tel.: 882-2798 / 884-1525 / 882-4530 / 882-4538 / 882-2908 / 884-1043 Fax No.: 882-2765 E-mail: met@metsoft.com

### Attn: MSI Payroll Users:

Incorporation of BIR RR 1-2005: Exemption of Minimum Wage Earners / Individuals with compensation income of P10,000 (ten thousand a year) from Withholding Tax is now available

FREE DEMO w/ in M.M.

Lenovo recommends Windows® XP Professional.



## UNPLUG AND STILL STAY CONNECTED WITH THE WIRELESS THINKPAD T SERIES NOTEBOOK.

THINKPAD T-SERIES NOTEBOOKS FEATURE INTEL® CENTRINO® MOBILE TECHNOLOGY SO YOU CAN WORK WIRELESSLY WITH GREATER FREEDOM. They also feature the revolutionary Access Connections for convenient wireless connectivity. Switching between different wireless networks becomes a breeze with it. Once you've created a profile, simply select the location, then sit back and watch it all happen automatically. No manually reconfiguring each time you move from office to home or anywhere else. ThinkPad notebooks are now products of Lenovo, a new global company uniting Lenovo and the former IBM PC Division under the Lenovo name. Find out more at [lenovo.com/gb/offers](http://lenovo.com/gb/offers)

### ThinkPad T43

DISTINCTIVE INNOVATIONS

Rescue and Recovery™

Integrated Fingerprint Reader

Active Protection System

Intel® Centrino® Mobile Technology

Intel® Pentium® M Processor 740 (1.76GHz)

Intel® PRO/Wireless 802.11 b/g

Windows® XP Professional

512MB DDR2 SDRAM, 60GB HDD

CD-RW/DVD-ROM Combo Drive

14.1" XGA (1024x768) TFT LCD display

64MB ATI Radeon X300 Discrete

Graphics, 3 years parts & labor (system battery: 1 year) Customer Carry-in

Repair Warranty

THINK EXPRESS MODEL

PHP130,795<sup>1</sup> (2668CJ7)

### ThinkPad T43

DISTINCTIVE INNOVATIONS

Rescue and Recovery™

Integrated Fingerprint Reader

Active Protection System

Intel® Centrino® Mobile Technology

Intel® Pentium® M Processor 740 (1.76GHz)

Intel® 915GM Chipset

Windows® XP Professional

256MB DDR2 SDRAM, 40GB HDD

CD-RW/DVD-ROM Combo Drive

14.1" XGA (1024x768) TFT LCD display

Intel® GMA 900, 3 years parts & labor

(system battery: 1 year) Customer Carry-in

Repair Warranty

THINK EXPRESS MODEL

PHP115,895<sup>1</sup> (118436A)

### ThinkPad R51e

DISTINCTIVE INNOVATIONS

Rescue and Recovery™

Push-of-a-button data backup and recovery

SYSTEM FEATURES

Intel® Pentium® M Processor 740 (1.73GHz)

Windows® XP Professional

ATI RC410M Chipset

IBM Wireless 802.11 b/g

256MB DDR2 SDRAM, 40GB HDD

CD-RW/DVD-ROM Combo Drive

14.1" XGA (1024x768) TFT LCD, ATI

Radeon 200m Graphics, 1 year (system

battery: 1 year) Customer Carry-in

Repair Warranty

FREE 128MB Memory Key

THINK EXPRESS MODEL

PHP78,695<sup>1</sup> (18436A)

### Complement these ThinkPad notebooks with special upgrades:

• ThinkPad Port Replicator II (74P6733) PHP4,395<sup>1</sup>

• IBM USB Fingerprint Reader (73P4774) PHP3,595<sup>1</sup>

• ThinkPad 72W Slim AC/DC Combo Adapter - both compatible with T43x4, R41 Tablet (73P4492) PHP3,195<sup>1</sup>

• ThinkPad T40R50 9-cell Li-Ion Battery (92P1102) PHP4,695<sup>1</sup>

• Kensington MicroSaver Security Cable lock (73P2582) PHP2,395<sup>1</sup>

• 256MB PC2-4200 CL4 NP DDR2 SDRAM SODIMM (73P3840) PHP2,795<sup>1</sup>

• 512MB PC2-4200 CL4 NP DDR2 SDRAM SODIMM (73P3842) PHP2,295<sup>1</sup>

With the Think Express Program, ThinkPad notebooks are preconfigured with your business and your budget in mind.

Contact our authorised resellers today.

**lenovo**

Corporate Resellers: Accent Micro Technologies, Inc. 6363563 • American Technologies, Inc. 7230681 • Creative Technologies, Inc. 4004222 • Eascom Computer Services, Inc. 8133881 • Integrated Computer Systems, Inc. 7273801 • Ng Yik Development Corporation (832) 3462926 • Personal Computer Specialists, Inc. 8195 06 • Union Computer Systems, Inc. 3745888  
Partners: ABC Computers Co. Inc. 727 4960 • Accent Micro Products, Inc. 6341999 • Advance Microsystems Corp. 6354181 • Advance Solutions, Inc. 5263935 • Axis IT Systems 8921000 • 2073 • Axis Computer Incorporated 8444383 • Axis International, Inc. 6876500 • Ayala Systems Technology Inc. 832494 • Columbia Technologies, Inc. 5240393 • Eco IT Solutions Corporation 7466500 • Electroworld Office Systems 7472054 • Information Products, Corp. 7215250 • JPMED Asia Pacific Incorporated 8438008 • MG Business Systems, Inc. 3727926 • Micro Image International, Corp. 8440490 • Micro Pacific Technologies Co. Ltd. 8404583 • 15 • Microbase, Inc. 8137603 • Microcircuits Corporation 5318768 • Macrophase Enterprise Company 812884 • Northgate Technologies, Inc. 8937454 • MicroGold 8892800 • Productivity Tech Services, Inc. 8952092 • Quinstrom Corporation 8134422 • Silicon Valley Computer Center 3716864 • ValueLine Systems & Solutions Corporation 9257623 • Winmax Computer Systems, Inc. 7529030 • Virtuality Information Technology Systems 7277632 • Zinnov Systems Corporation 3669395

© Lenovo 2006. All rights reserved. ThinkPad and ThinkPad logo are trademarks of Lenovo. IBM and the IBM logo are registered trademarks of IBM and are used under license. Microsoft and Windows are registered trademarks of Microsoft Corporation. Certain other marks, logos, icons, and text are trademarks of Intel Corporation, IBM Corporation, Hewlett-Packard, Dell, and others. The Intel logo and the Intel Inside logo are trademarks or registered trademarks of Intel Corporation or its subsidiaries in the United States and other countries. \*Price subject to change.

## GOINGS-ON

### IPR programs for the youth

INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY officials of Nestlé SA have committed to support the advocacy programs of the Intellectual Property Office of the Philippines, particularly those involving the youth.

The commitment was made by the Nestlé SA officials in a recent meeting with IP Philippines Director General Adrian Cristobal Jr.

Nestlé and IP Philippines believe that involving today's youth in the country's program of promoting creativity and innovations is instrumental in strengthening the IP regime and achieving national development.

### Business plan competitions

THE FAR EASTERN UNIVERSITY OF N. Reyes Street (formerly Morayta), Manila has been lording it over Ateneo, UP, UST, La Salle and other universities in the business plan competitions in the country this year.

Taypen Biogas, led by Raniel Benjamin of the FEU's management pilot section, won in the Binondo-based Filipino Chinese Business Club Inc. business plan competition. Aqua Vendo led by Gian Carlo Capco won in the MIT-backed Philippine Emerging Startup Open besting collegiate and professional entries. Eco Tiles, led by John Paolo Cinco, and Taypen Biogas were finalists in the HSBC national business plan competition.

At the recently concluded Go Negosyo Entrepreneurial Summit, Coco Sugar led by Jean Paula Dula of the financing accounting class of FEU, was declared overall winner in the PCE-Eneads national business plan competition.

### Wi-Fi at the Robinsons malls

ROBINSONS GALLERIA and Robinsons Place Pioneer are offering 'wi-fi' or wireless fidelity internet access for free.

This means that one will be able to enjoy the convenience of checking his e-mail or surfing the net while dining at KFC, Kitaro, Bacolod Chicken Inasal, Shakey's Jonas, Mongolian Quickstop or Coffee Beanery at Robinsons Place Pioneer. The entire Robinsons Galleria is also a certified Wi-Fi zone.

### STI partners with medical center

SENATOR JUAN FLAVIER lauded the partnership formed by STI and the De los Santos family.

The partnership combines the strengths of STI in IT-based education and the De los Santos Medical Center in providing health care. Flavio described the partnership as "the wave of the future," as it integrates IT in healthcare and education.

STI has the largest network of nursing schools in the country



# BUSINESS

## CIIF, Mitsubishi put up oil mill

By Ronnel W. Domingo

MINOLA REFINING CORP., THE JOINT VENTURE between CIIF Oil Mills Group and Japan's Mitsubishi Corp., has set up another vegetable oil refinery to meet growing demand in Asia.

Minola chair and president Danilo M. Coronacion said the company launched a P182-million refinery to answer the need of Southeast Asian food firms for refined and bleached oil as well as specialty fats.

The CIIFOMG comprises six coconut oil milling companies that are funded by the controversial coco levy or the Coconut Industry Investment Fund.

Minola's new refinery in Bauan, Batangas, which could yield 150 metric tons a day, brought the firm's production capacity to 450 MT of oil daily.

In 1999, CIIFOMG and Mitsubishi built a P160-million coconut oil processing facility.

Formed in 1998, Minola is engaged in manufacturing, refining and supplying vegetable oils made into edible or cooking oils, mainly for the export market.

"We ship out four-fifths of our output, which is representative of the total export-import mix of the industry as local demand is small compared to production," Coronacion explained.

## ING to set up OFW fund

By Doris C. Dumao

DUTCH BANKING GIANT ING WILL set up a \$200-million mutual fund for overseas Filipino workers in Europe, a pioneering program recently approved by the Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas.

"[It will] mobilize savings and investments from OFWs other than remittances, so it's an important innovative product that the MB (Monetary Board) has recently approved," said BSP Deputy Governor Nestor Espenilla Jr. Espenilla said the plan was to in-

corporate the mutual fund in Ireland and distribute shares in the European Union through offshore branches of Philippine banks.

It aims to tap the growing number of affluent OFWs in Europe in position to invest and contribute to Philippine development.

"They can buy shares in the mutual fund, and the mutual fund, in terms of assets, is going to invest a substantial part of that in Philippine businesses, either equities or bonds," Espenilla said.

A mutual fund refers to a pool of funds that are managed by a profes-

sional company and invested in various securities.

Espenilla said ING's mutual fund for OFWs would initially focus on investing in fixed income instruments.

"The initial target is to create a fund of up to \$200 million, then if there's a really strong demand, they can create a fund for another \$200 million," he noted.

Espenilla, however, said a portion of the fund might have to be invested abroad in accordance with European rules.

At least eight million Filipinos or 10 percent of the population reside and work abroad, three million of which are permanent residents.

The five million overseas workers account for as much as 14 percent of the labor force.

While the BSP had given its approval in principle to ING, Espenilla said the bank would have to seek final approval after the foreign bank had set up the fund and identified the proposed local banking partners.

He said the distribution mechanism would have to comply with the BSP's rule on cross-selling of securities.

## STOP Worrying About Hair Loss. Call Svenson Now!

Receding hairline... thinning hair... excessive falling hair... If you're like most men, you get distressed when you see any of these telltale signs. DON'T!

Svenson, the experts in hair recovery have proven treatments that will stop your hair from thinning out and restore its thickness by promoting healthier and faster regrowth.

Stop hair loss before it's too late. Call Svenson now!

**Svenson**  
INTERNATIONAL  
YOUR CHOICE NOT TO BE SAID

CALL 892-HAIR (4247)

MAKATI 15/F GT Tower • TOMAS MORATO 3/F CKB Center • BINONDO 11/F Federal Tower Bldg. • ALABANG 4/F Citibank-Philippine Bldg. • CEBU 7/F Kappal Center • 234-0081

## EURO: MAKE IT YOUR NEXT INVESTMENT DESTINATION. INTRODUCING THE ALFM EURO BOND FUND.

Do you want to diversify your investments? Then set your sights on the Euro, one of the major currencies in the world today. Invest in ALFM Euro Bond Fund, the first euro-denominated mutual fund in the country, since incorporation, and derive benefits from steady income and diversification at a low initial investment. For a minimum investment of only €1,000.00, you can already subscribe to a professionally managed fund earning superior investment yields.

To make the Euro your next investment destination and embark on a new and exciting journey in investments, call your ALFM Euro Bond Fund sales agent today. BPI Asset Management, Inc. is the fund manager of ALFM Euro Bond Fund.

**ALFM EURO BOND FUND**

To learn more about ALFM Euro Bond Fund, please feel free to call the nearest agent (list below) or visit the following website:

BPI Capital Corporation (02) 343 5095 to 96; (02) 744 0758; (02) 920-9032; (02) 843-3337; (02) 416-1793; (02) 633 3311; (024) 414-9514; (033) 130 1749; (009) 343 2906; (094) 304-4382; (082) 126 3334

BPI Investment Management, Inc. (02) 846-6025 to 26

BPI Asset Management (02) 818-0100 or 8180

A mutual fund is an open-end investment company that pools the money of many investors to invest in a diversified portfolio of securities. The fund's performance is measured against a benchmark index. The fund's assets are managed by a professional fund manager. The fund's shares are sold at a net asset value (NAV) of €1.00 per share. The fund's expenses are paid by the fund's assets. The fund's performance is measured against a benchmark index. The fund's assets are managed by a professional fund manager. The fund's shares are sold at a net asset value (NAV) of €1.00 per share. The fund's expenses are paid by the fund's assets.



## LIFESTYLE

Text us your feedback:  
Inquirer life name/age/city/message to  
2207 (Globe) or 283 (Smart)


DON'T MISS  
YOUR COPY!

CALL THE INQUIRER CUSTOMER SERVICE HOTLINE  
**896-6000**

MONDAY ARTS &amp; BOOKS • TUESDAY FITNESS • WEDNESDAY 2BU • THURSDAY FOOD • FRIDAY FASHION &amp; BEAUTY

# Running to bring light to those without sight

By Jason Doplito  
Contributor

I HAVE LOST MY SIGHT but i have not lost my vision," said Henry Wanyoike, goodwill ambassador of the "Seeing is Believing" campaign, the driving force behind Standard Chartered's The Greatest Race on Earth (GROE) series.

The Kenyan, who is recognized as the world's fastest blind marathon runner, is leading the campaign to reduce blindness in the world via a marathon relay that started in Nairobi, went on to Singapore and Mumbai and ended in Hongkong.

In Hong Kong, Wanyoike said raising awareness about the issue of blindness was more important than winning and setting new running records. With four world records and three gold Paralympic medals under his belt, he was certainly taking very seriously his mission as a motivational speaker.

According to the Standard Chartered website, there are over 45 million blind people across the globe, majority of them living in the developing world. Eighty percent of these people with avoidable blindness do not have access to basic healthcare treatment.

In its first year in 2003, "Seeing is Believing" raised enough money to restore the sight of 56,000 people in time for World Sight Day, which falls



AROUND 40,000 runners participated in the HK marathon to help alleviate the issue of blindness across the globe.

on Oct. 9. By teaming up with Sight Savers International and Vision 2020, Standard Chartered is working to raise enough funds for one million sight restorations by year's end.

In the Philippines, Resources for the Blind Inc. (RBI) is the main beneficiary of this campaign. RBI is the only nongovernment organization that publishes textbooks in Braille and distributes them for free among 200 accredited public schools nationwide that accept blind students. It also conducts medical missions around the country for cataract removal.

#### Will to fight

"Yesterday, I met a guy from New York and he said when he's training,

he places my picture on his treadmill," said Wanyoike. "When he's tired and he sees my picture, he gets motivated. He's now here with us to do the marathon."

The 32-year-old runner woke up 11 years ago to discover that he had gone blind after a stroke in his sleep. Wanyoike had wanted to commit suicide, but his stay at a rehabilitation center in Kenya's largest hospital changed his perspective. At the center, he learned to read Braille and move around on his own. He realized there were bigger things he could do, and that's when he started running again.

RUNNING/C3



WITH a personal best of one hour and 10 minutes, Henry is all smiles before his 21 km run.

Henry Wanyoike, the world's fastest blind marathon runner, has not lost his heart and his vision



**JETT Shower Heaters**

Asia's 1st Immersed Thermostat System  
(For Accurate & Faster Thermal Sensing)

SRP: **PHP 7,200.00**  
INTRODUCTORY PRICE: **PHP 6,500.00**

**Jett Singlepoint**

Call us NOW at **723-0032**

BAGUO (074) 619-1203 CEBU (032) 346-4536 / 346-4537 DAVAO (082) 225-0915

Hurry! Promo period is until March 31, 2006

BPI EXPRESS CREDIT



## The ride of your life begins with the win of a lifetime.

For a chance to win the Porsche Boxster, simply charge a minimum purchase of P1,000 to your BPI Edge or Mini-Edge Credit Card.

Every P1,000 purchase entitles you to one raffle entry. The more entries, the more chances to win.

Only from the credit cards that can

## Make It Happen



\*To apply for a BPI Edge, visit any BPI or BPI Family Savings Bank branch or Express Banking Center near you or call 88-100 or log on to [www.bpiexpressonline.com](http://www.bpiexpressonline.com).

\*Monthly membership fee for new customers waived for the first year.  
\*Free BPI Mini-Edge with a hip cardholder for every approved BPI Edge application.  
\*Approved applications during the promo period will also earn raffle entries.  
\*Actual unit may vary from photo.

BPI Express Credit's Make It Happen promotion is from November 16, 2005 to May 15, 2006.  
Per OTI-NCR Permit No. 6503, Series of 2005



**BANK OF THE PHILIPPINE ISLANDS**  
A tradition of leadership

PGA Cars, Inc.  
Only repair and maintenance







MAIN gal of The Met, Bea Zobel Jr., with her very own man, Joel Uichico



PATRONS of the art: Cenon and Jul Dixon with Cristina Belton



OUR PALANGGA Ethel Timbol (center) with business magnate Louie Ablaza and Guatemala honorary consul Mellie Romero A.

## Shining moment at The Met



CORA Alvina and The Met's dedicated executive director Ino Manalo



WOMEN of culture: hardworking hairress Marivic Madrigal Vasquez, mi amiga Bambi Harper and intelligent Luli Arroyo



BEAUTIES at The Met: Ollie Campos and HSBC's Laine Santana



HOST with the most Don Ado Escudero and popular architect Bobby Mañosa



DISCUSSING history and art: architect Ramon Zaragoza, world-class couturier Patis Tesoro and grand gourmand Pacqui Ortigas



ARTISTIC personalities: Jaime Laya, Tessie Ojeda and husband Arturo Luz

WITH GOLD SHINING EVERYWHERE, it's no wonder that the theme was gold during the smashing "Mayi at The Met," which dramatized The Met's recognition of everything that is gold in the Philippines, palanggas.

The big come-on of this glitzy event was the exhibition of the rare gold collection of the Central Bank, which no one had ever seen before, except for the people handling it, natch! This awesome collection consisted of Hispano-Filipino pieces from the Spanish colonial period.

The exhibition is part of a series of must-go-to programs "geared toward promoting public consciousness of the Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas Gold Forum, which were organized to explore the potential of the gold industry in the country," as explained to moi by dedicated workaholic southern gentry Ino Manalo, no less.

Once all the beautiful people had breezed through this one-of-a-kind-exhibit, a fab dance interpretation of the golden era in Philippine history opened the excellent Filipino-inspired "degustacion" from Mr. Gourmand himself, multifaceted Claude Tayag. The menu was capped with the entrance of colorful sorbetos, which thrilled both foreign and local guests, palanggas.

Our pals Bea Zobel Jr., who has been in and out of the country recently, and Ino Manalo presented The Met's economic development program which "advocates the promotion of creative industries." They recognized the support of corporations and organizations which have and are supporting The Met's programs such as ING, HSBC, Unilab and The Woman's Business Council.

Needless to say, a high cultural event like this brought out our town's civic-minded hotshot personalities from the business, arts and culture sectors. OK, here we go—Jaime Laya; Federico Alvarez; architect Manny Mifana and wife, adorable top photographer Denise Weldon; Rita Ledesma; architect Ramon Zaragoza; Opat Hermano and Cora Alvina; iBank's brilliant Ramon Sy and beautiful wife Josie; HSBC's main man Warner Manning and the bank's top secret weapon Laine Santana; world traveler and renowned gourmands Pacqui and Susie Ortigas; popular couple Louie and Mellie Romero Ablaza, who was ultra glam as usual; Jul and Cenon Dixon; and Albert Garcia.

Here's more, palanggas: gorgeous Lizzie Zobel; ballet star Sofia Zobel Elizalde; stylish Menchu Menchaca; Mix's Mia Borromeo; one of the hardworking organizers of the affair, Karen Santos; Ollie Campos; every gal's dream man Joel Uichico; Sabay Palanca; and Lilian Linsangan. Now, how's that for name-dropping, huh!

INTERPRETATIVE dance by the Hotdogs group, with outfits by Steve de Leon, opens the "Mayi at The Met event."

### WITHOUT BATTING AN EYELASH

Maurice Arcache

Photos by Alex Van Hagen using Kodak EasyShare system

### Good pass

Hey, palanggas, the next time you take the world-renowned Singapore Airlines, don't throw away your boarding pass. That piece of paper can get you irresistible, awesome goodies within seven days of your arrival in Manila.

This was announced over lunch at the chi-chi Tivoli of the elegant Mandarin Oriental where moi spotted power diners' eye-catching dynamic philanthropist Rose Marie Arenas; BizNews Asia president and editor-in-chief Tony Lopez; Makati Rep. Teddy Locsin Jr.; Jaguar's très charmant Wellington Soong; Aranea Group's

Vic Kalaw.

The SIA boarding pass promo gives discounts from 15-60 percent. Mandarin's Charisse Chuidian, doyen of PR ladies, told us that at partner hotel Mandarin Oriental one could enjoy the superb tableside preparations that top gourmards had been craving for, or the seven-course degustation dinner at The Tivoli at 20-percent off, plus all the pampering you need at the ultra luxurious The Oriental Spa at a 20-percent discount on individual treatments.

Present that boarding pass at the hotel's front desk and you get a 50-percent discount on rooms (published rates) during weekdays and 60-percent off on weekends, plus discounts at the Business Center and even transportation and laundry services. There's more. Stay two nights and you get the third night for free.

### Chilling out in Bora

It's still a cool morning breeze that one feels in the island air of Boracay, palanggas. For those visiting Boracay at this time of the year, these are now so many resorts to choose from, among them the popular Pearl of the Pacific; the super top-of-the-line Asya Resort; and, everyone's all-time favorite, the Boracay Regency Beach Resort and Convention Center (tels. 5238707 to 08).

This first triple-A-rated hotel along the white beach is also the resort with the widest beach front and the most number of rooms, thanks to Boracay's hotshot Regency chair and president, the brilliant Henry Chusuey, no less, and the workaholic G.M. Jade Estardo.

Right après the holidays when the chi-chi pack that invaded Bora at that time of year had gone back to the city's asphalt jungle, another batch of personalities flew in to chill out, palanggas. Enjoying the glorious sunshine were Boracay Regency Front Office agent Lloyd Ecuacion with Rep. Ferj Blron and his family; Honorary Consul General of the Philippines in Kiev, Ukraine, Valeriy Kovalenko; and Boracay Regency Front Office agent Falcon Rogador.

Check the place out, palanggas.



SINGAPORE Airlines' marketing communication manager, sultry beauty Rita Dy



BEAUTY queen Margie Florando loves yummy sorbetos.



REGENCY chair and president Henry Chusuey was one of the first to explore Boracay's potential and is now a moving force in the island's tourism industry.



REGENCY'S assistant FO manager Dindo Salazar and front office agent Donna Pabulayan welcome actor Ian Veneracion.



FORMER basketball superstar Atoy Co and attractive wife Monette usually stay at Boracay Regency when vacationing in the island paradise.

FEARLESS lady broadcaster Korina Sanchez and fun Christina Chusuey, daughter of Boracay's top gun Henry Chusuey

## Quantum physics opens new possibilities

THERE ARE TWO WAYS OF LOOKING at things. One is represented by the scientific point of view, which says "only matter exists," and the other is represented by religion, which says "only spirit matters."

The tremendous success of science in clarifying and exploring the world we live in has led modern man into believing that only science can be relied upon to give us correct and valid answers to life's problems. Only knowledge or conclusion derived from the application of the scientific method is accepted.

That's why things that cannot be explained scientifically are often regarded as either fraudulent or imaginary. This fixation has resulted in the exclusion of all knowledge and phenomena that cannot be explained scientifically.

Thus, the existence of ghosts or spirits, elemental creatures, extra sensory perception, the astral body, psychic surgery, angels, extraterrestrials, etc. is

being denied. There is no scientific basis or proof of their existence.

But consider this: In India, there is a big boulder weighing several hundred tons. If 11 persons place their hands on top of the boulder and chant simultaneously at a certain pitch, that boulder will rise several feet above ground by itself. If anyone removes his hand or stops chanting, the boulder falls with a big thud. One better be sure his foot is not anywhere near its path when it lands!

No one has been able to explain why or how that boulder is able to float by itself if 11 people place their hands on top of it while chanting. Why 11, not 10? Why that particular pitch? What is the effect of 11 hands on top of it?

### Anomalies

Because it cannot be explained scientifically, and even seems to defy accepted scientific laws, such phenomena are considered mere anomalies of nature

### INNER AWARENESS

Jaime T. Licauco



and are promptly ignored by the scientific community.

Even the existence of "mind" is questioned by some scientists. They consider the mind's activities as merely consisting of chemical reactions of the brain. It cannot function without the brain—a conclusion that is not born out by the facts.

The fact is, there are people who either deliberately or spontaneously go out of their physical bodies and are conscious that they are out. This is called out-of-body experience or OOB. They can sometimes even be seen to be hovering above their bodies. But since this

is difficult to prove scientifically, it is flatly denied.

Those who experience this are thought to be merely hallucinating.

### New science

Fortunately, a new science that tends to bridge science and religion has emerged. I refer to quantum physics, otherwise known as quantum mechanic or modern physics. This science studies the smallest particle or element of matter beyond which one cannot go any further. It studies the most fundamental building block of matter.

At the quantum level, the laws of Newtonian physics, long held sacred by scientists, do not apply at all. Quantum mechanics follows principles more akin to mysticism than to the physical sciences.

In Newtonian physics, the observer is independent of the thing observed, mind cannot affect matter; a particle is different from a wave, the cause must

precede the effect.

In modern quantum physics, the observed object is not independent of the observer, a particle can appear as a wave depending on the person observing it, mind can affect matter and an effect can occur simultaneously with its cause.

Nothing exists apart from the one observing it in quantum physics. In other words, this world is largely our own mental creation.

Isn't this what the Buddhist mystics have been saying all along? For over 2,500 years, they have been telling us that matter is "maya" or an illusion but Newtonian physicists merely laughed at the idea.

Now scientists may have to revise their theories regarding the nature of physical reality. Perhaps in the future, quantum physics will be able to explain how that heavy boulder in India can float unaided, in seeming defiance of the laws of gravity.



# The ultimate basketball shoes



CONVERSE  
Wade Shoes

By Cheryl Tiu  
Contributor

**B**EST KNOWN FOR ITS CANVAS Chuck Taylor All-Star, Converse marks its 20th anniversary this year with reinventions of both the All Star and its other hot model, the Weapon.

Introduced in 1917, All-Star gained further popularity in 1918 with the endorsement of basketball player Charles "Chuck" Taylor, who worked as a salesman-ambassador for the company. Taylor impressed Converse so much that, in 1923, his name began appearing on the ankle patch. Thereafter, the shoe became known as Chucks, and it has become the most successful shoe in history, having sold over 600 million pairs worldwide.

In 1986, Converse introduced the Weapon, which powered the feet of basketball legends Larry Bird and Magic Johnson and all those part of the celebrated '80s basketball shootouts.

For its 2006 Spring-Summer collection Converse offers the Weapon in two limited-edition models, individually numbered from one to 900, with a 20th anniversary sock liner. Meanwhile, bright colors and stylish vintage models distinguish the signature Chuck Taylor All-Star line.

Converse's most recent blockbuster is the Chuck Taylor Slip-On, which maintains the canvas and rubber look of the original, but does away with the laces. Last Christmas, Kris Aquino reportedly ordered 14 pairs over the Internet as a present to her fiancé, Converse endorser James Yap.

Also gaining a large following is One Star, designed especially for the "in-



CONVERSE  
Weapon shoes

CONVERSE  
All-Star  
High-Cut Luxe  
in pinstripes



Converse marks its 20th anniversary with a collection that celebrates its shared heritage with the sport

die" athlete. The shoe was a favorite of the late Nirvana frontman Kurt Cobain as well as badminton top seed Jack Purcell.

Pro basketball star Dwayne Wade has also worked closely with the Converse Design Team to create the perfect shoe for his quick and cutting play style. Thus, the Converse Wade Signature Basketball shoes are must-haves.

Converse is reissuing the North Carolina Pro Leather, Michael Jordan's shoe-of-choice during his varsity player years. The Converse Pro Leather was the hottest shoe of the late '70s and early '80s, made famous by the great Julius "The Doctor" Irving.

Converse's 2006 Spring-Summer collection evokes its shared roots with basketball history, making it a brand of unique heritage.

E-mail the author at [chloe\\_dominique@yahoo.com](mailto:chloe_dominique@yahoo.com)

## Running to bring...

From page C1

Running came to Wanyoike early. In a country saddled with slow economic growth and high unemployment, a majority of Kenyans look to sports, particularly middle-distance and long-distance athletics for which Kenya is known, to boost their self-worth and national pride.

"I grew up admiring great Kenyans who were being dressed with flowers or gold medals around their necks," said Wanyoike. "I wished I could be like them, celebrated after putting Kenya on the world map."

After losing his sight, Wanyoike found himself facing a huge challenge. It was tough enough to run in a nation brimming with talents, but to run without sight? "To convince people that as a visually impaired person I could still run and that I needed their support was very difficult," he said.

But he faced the challenge by covering the length of Kenya's rough roads—running, falling, having injuries, getting a good guide to run with him.

To convince corporations to sponsor his training gear and expenses, he showed them total commitment and courage. Soon, the support—and the awards—began pouring in.

Wanyoike won a gold medal in the 5,000-meter run at the 2000 Sydney Paralympics, and again at the 2004 Athens games, where he set a world record. Last year, he was voted Kenya's Sportsman of the Year, topping other Kenyan greats. He was also nominated for a Laureus, the world's biggest sports award.

"I am now who I wanted to be when I was young," he said. "I've received the same treatment given to the athletes I looked up to when I was young."

### Family time

When he is not running, Wanyoike spends time with his wife and their 2-year old son. He said he wanted a family of champions, though he'd definitely let his child do whatever he wants to do in the future.

Though he looks forward to doing the Paralympics in Beijing and London, this early, Wanyoike is already giving back to children all over the world via his role as a motivational speaker and ambassador for Seeing is Believing. He has been to the UK, Austria, Germany, US, India, Singapore, Brunei and Japan, among other places, to encourage young people to aim for and achieve their goals in their lifetime. And he encourages everybody to join in the campaign, visually impaired or not.

"We need support and opportunities, not sympathy," he stressed. "This is one way of showing the world that we are not here for people to do things for us. We can also do things like any other person can, so long as we are shown the way."

Blindness, said Wanyoike, should be no hindrance. With acceptance, you won't have time for self-pity or bothering about how others are reacting to you.

"Sometimes even I forget that I'm blind," he said. "I see it no more, just no more."

Visit [www.standardchartered.com](http://www.standardchartered.com)



THE TARGET of the Greatest Race on Earth, the first marathon across African and Asian nations, is to raise funds for the campaign to reduce blindness in the world.

## EXERCISE OF THE WEEK

### Open-close buttocks bridge

THIS EXERCISE TIGHTENS and tones the buttocks, inner thighs and hamstrings (back of the thighs) as well as challenges the stability of the torso muscles—abdominals and lower back.

#### Equipment:

Exercise mat

#### Exercise technique:

1. Lie down with your knees bent, feet together, heels raised and arms beside your hips with palms down.

2. Press down with the balls of your feet and contract your buttocks as you raise your pelvis off the floor.

3. While keeping your heels and pelvis raised off the floor, open your knees outward then close your knees together using your inner thighs. Continue

opening and closing your knees for the desired number of repetitions.

4. Lower your pelvis back down to the mat.

#### Performance tips:

1. Do all movements slow and controlled.

2. Keep upper back and shoulders on the floor. Raise only the pelvis and lower back.

3. Do not allow your lower back to sag toward the floor. Keep a straight back (with a natural curve in the lower back).

4. Squeeze and contract buttocks and inner thighs when you bring knees together.

#### Repetition:

Do 10 repetitions (one repetition equals opening and closing the knees).



## Exercise may help reduce breast cancer risk

### WELL AND GOOD

Tina Juan



Studies in five countries indicate that women who sat for long periods at home or in the office on a daily basis had a higher risk

EVIDENCE IS GROWING THAT EXERCISE may be an important weapon in the fight against breast cancer. This is good to know because the Department of Health says the disease is the leading cancer among Filipino females.

Studies conducted in five countries and three continents indicate that the higher the level of daily physical activity, the lower the risk of breast cancer. Women with the highest risk were those who sat for long periods at home or in the office on a daily basis.

The "physical activity" measured included walking, lifting, climbing stairs, standing, moving from site to site and manual work (housework and gardening), as well as moderate to vigorous "formal" exercise and recreational sports like aerobics, weight lifting, tennis, swimming, running and cycling.

A 14-year Norwegian study found that those who exercised four hours a week had a 37-percent lower risk than sedentary women. The risk was lowest in lean women, women under the age of 45 and women who continued to exercise regularly for three to five years.

However, even women in their 70s can reduce their risk compared to sedentary women of the same age if they exercise several times a week, according to an 11-year study by the Mayo Clinic.

### Better than none

It seems that a little exercise is better than none. A 2005 University of Southern California study compared lifestyle habits of women who had breast cancer and women who did not. Women who exercised at least 1.3 hours a week since the age of 10 had a 20-percent lower risk.

But the study found that exercise did not reduce the risk for women with a family history of breast cancer (first degree family member—mother, sister, daughter).

Scientists are not sure exactly how exercise reduces the risk of breast cancer but the main theory has to do with estrogen. Since reproductive cancers are estrogen-related, exercise may be protective because it reduces lifetime exposure to estrogen by lowering body fat

levels (the more fat you have, the higher your estrogen level) and reducing estrogen levels circulating in the blood.

The body fat in postmenopausal women converts male hormones called androgens (produced by a woman's adrenal glands) into estrone, a particularly potent form of estrogen, says Dr. Christine Wells, who has reviewed more than 10 years' worth of studies on breast cancer and exercise. She says there is substantial evidence that elevated estrone levels are associated with an increase in breast cancer in postmenopausal women.

A Harvard School of Public Health study showed that if a woman was more than 44-pounds overweight when she reached menopause she had double the risk of breast cancer compared to a woman of normal weight. There was a 60-percent risk if she was 22- to 44-pounds overweight and a 20-percent risk with 5-22-pounds of excess weight.

Another study done at the Moffitt Cancer Center and Research Institute in Tampa, Florida calculated the risk of breast cancer in women who were overweight at the age of 30. They found that being 10-pounds overweight had a

23-percent risk, 15-pounds overweight a 37-percent risk and 20-pounds overweight a 52-percent risk compared to normal weight.

The National Cancer Institute studied 1,500 women in the US of Asian descent and discovered that the women who were most overweight in their 40s and 50s had double the risk of breast cancer. The women who were over 50 years old and had gained 10 pounds since they were 40 had triple the risk compared to women whose weight had stayed the same.

The good news is women who used to be overweight when they were young but lost weight by their fourth and fifth decade did not increase their risk of breast cancer.

Other studies indicated that there was a greater risk for women who became overweight as an adult but not for women who were overweight since childhood. Also, fat in the waist may increase risk more than the same amount of fat in the hips and thighs.

### Stronger immune system

The second theory is exercise enhances a woman's immune system to fight off effectively cancer cells before they can cause real damage.

Finally, women who exercise tend to have healthier lifestyle habits (good nutrition, moderate alcohol, no smoking, enough sleep) than women who are sedentary. This might make all the difference.

Whatever theory proves to be true (or maybe all three are right), the important thing is that all women should become more physically active to help lower their risk of breast cancer.

Even women with breast cancer can benefit from exercise. A 2005 study, the first of its kind, found that exercise of three to five hours a week, while not an iron-clad guarantee of survival, increased the odds of surviving the disease. Even one hour of exercise a week helped. It was the women with estrogen-sensitive breast cancer who benefited the most, which seems to strengthen the theory of the estrogen connection.

Visit [www.tinajuanfitness.info](http://www.tinajuanfitness.info)



## LIFESTYLE

## Caring for the body's largest organ

## MEDICard, The Healthcare I Deserve!

## What are the signs and symptoms of Colo-Rectal cancer?

Cancer of the colon or the large intestine can occur at any age but the average age of diagnosis is 64 years. However, younger patients tend to have more advanced disease at the time of diagnosis. In order for us to diagnose cancer of the colon at an early stage, screening procedures should be undertaken to those patients who are at high risk of developing colon cancer. Basically, family members who have colon cancer or some types of polyps in the colon predispose other members of the family to develop colon cancer. The following screening procedures are recommended: Annual stool examination for occult blood, flexible sigmoidoscopy every 5 years, colonoscopy every 10 years. Despite the recommended screening examinations, many cases of colon cancer are discovered at an advanced stage. The most common symptoms of colon cancer is abdominal pain. Bloating, abdominal pain should not be ignored, especially in patients who have a strong family history of colon cancer. In decreasing order of frequency, the following signs and symptoms may be manifested, rectal bleeding, unexplained anemia, unusual constipation, diarrhea. Cancers of the left colon more often present with obstructive symptoms and bleeding while cancers of the right colon rarely cause obstruction but present with iron deficiency anemia. In early cases of colon cancer, physical examination is usually normal. The presence of weight loss suggests advanced disease. Larger colon cancer may be detected on physical examination. A digital rectal examination should always be done to exclude presence of rectal cancer.



This week's answer to our feature question was provided by our 15-year medical service provider at Medical Center Manila, Dr. Orlando L. Dimasmpa. He specializes in General and Cancer Surgery. He finished his medical degree from De La Salle University in 1984 and later took his residency training for General Surgery at Medical Center Manila in 1990. Dr. Dimasmpa is the current VP-Chairman of the Surgery Department of Alonzo Memorial & Medical Center. He is a fellow of the Philippine College of Surgeons, Philippine Society of Laparoscopic Surgeons and a member of the Philippine Medical Association. MEDICard members may visit him for consultation at Medical Center Manila, Room 242, Alondra, Tuesdays, Thursdays & Fridays from 10 am to 1 pm, Wednesdays & Saturdays by appointment.

MEDICard's Medical Director, Dr. Nicky Mantaya answers questions on health through the assistance and expertise of MEDICard's network of accredited specialists. Write to Dr. Nicky or E-mail him at [inquiry@medicardphil.com](mailto:inquiry@medicardphil.com) for your inquiries on health matters.

## Take Charge Doc!



JUST LIKE THE HEART, LIVER or kidney, the skin is an organ. It is, in fact, considered the largest of all organs.

## What it does

The skin has many life-sustaining functions. It regulates body temperature, shields the body from the elements, and guards against bacteria, viruses.

But did you know that it is the body's mirror? It reflects a person's state of health. If you are exhausted, stressed, poorly nourished, it will show on your skin.

## In the beginning

When we are born, our skins are perfect. But the ravages of time, neglect or abuse contribute to the imperfect state of our skin today.

Skin can be damaged by:

- Exposure to the sun without protection
- Smoking
- Drinking
- Unbalanced diet, eating low-nutrition meals
- Neglect, lack of a daily care regimen

## Skin tones

Know what your skin tone is. This is determined by the amount of melanin your skin has, i.e. a fair-skinned woman/man has less melanin than a brown-skinned individual.

Remember, the darker your skin, the more melanin, therefore the more protection you have against the sun. So, a word of warning to fairer persons—you need more sun protection than most. Stay away from the sun. If you cannot, wear adequate protection on face, neck and shoulders/chest areas every day.

## INSIDE OUT

Cory Quirino



(SPF 30, if possible).

Skin tone may be alabaster white, golden olive to ebony black, or any shade in between.

White skin (normally of Caucasians) is more susceptible to sun damage and photo-aging. This skin type scars easily and may require cosmetic procedures.

Brown skin tends to be oilier by nature and less prone to wrinkles, although it is susceptible to inflammation. It tends to be elastic and firm over the years.

Light brown/yellow skin (Asian/Mediterranean) is more resistant to sun damage than white skin, thin skin and tiny pores. Asian skin could appear sallow and pale and has a tendency toward dryness.

## Skin type

Dry skin: Tight, but feeling in the skin. Use a gentle cleanser, use a fatty soap or beauty bar that contains lanolin or olive/coconut oil. At night, use olive oil or coconut oil (if you do not have oily skin) as moisturizer. Choose oil-based cosmetics.

Oily skin: This is a gift. Even if you have a shiny nose, it's okay. Better to control the oil than not to have it. Don't use detergent or detergent-based soaps on your face. Avoid fatty soaps. Don't apply oil-based cosmetics on your face. Use water-based cosmetics.

Combination: Usually, the T-zone is

oily and the rest, dry. When buying cosmetics, ask for normal/combination skin. Better to use a water-based foundation. Apply moisturizer only in areas where they are needed and skip the oily part.

## My favorite regimen

For oily skin:

Egg-citing Egg White Mask  
Beat white of one egg. Apply on your face. Allow to dry. Rinse.

Naturally absorbs oil and gives a lift.

Oatmeal Lift

3 tbsp raw oatmeal

3 tbsp cold water

Mix into a paste. Apply on face. Rinse when it starts to dry and begins tightening on your face.

For dry/combination skin:

Coco Craze

Dab virgin coco oil on your face. Place your palms on your face to warm up and open your pores for 1 minute. Best before bedtime.

Cucumber Cool

Blender ten slices of cucumber (de-seeded). Mix 1 tsp milk. Apply on sun-damaged, inflamed skin. Rinse after 5-10 minutes.

Great Skin Chaser

Blender 1 (de-seeded) ripe guava in one glass of coconut water. Add a squeeze of lemon and 2 tsp of honey. Drink up. This Vitamin C rich summer drink is great for the skin.

Your affirmation: "I rise as the sun does with hope each day."

Love and light

Join the Beauty of Life Health and Beauty Expo, March 24-26, SM Megamall, SM Megamall on March 23.

Attend a wellness day with Cory Q, 1-7 p.m., March 25

## Convention on men's health set

THE PHILIPPINE SOCIETY FOR the Study of the Aging Male Foundation Inc. (Phissam) will hold its 5th annual convention on March 22 at the Century Park Hotel in Malate, Manila.

The theme of the convention is Men's Health: From Pathophysiology to Practice. Lectures include: caring for aging males with late onset of hypogonadism (andropause),

metabolic syndrome, diabetes mellitus, sexual wellness, osteoporosis and musculoskeletal disorders. A lay forum follows at the Megatrade Hall, SM Megamall on March 23. Interested participants are required to register on or before March 15.

Registration is free. Call 7231075 (Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays only), 7252133 and 7230101 local 2002.

*Dream It*

Find inner peace in nature's beauty...

Take a break from life's hurried pace in your very own paradise.

**SUN VALLEY ESTATES**

Come Home To Nature.

Sun Valley Estates Brgy. Inarawan, Antipolo City • Tel. No. 681.8240 • Mobile No. 0917.3920141

**ABS HERBS HERBAL Tea**

Be ABSolutely Fit.

Soothing. Nourishing. Cleansing. Stimulating.

A fit and healthy body starts with the proper diet, exercise and ABS Herbal Tea. It's the tea that keeps you ABSolutely fit.

Feel light. Live right.

[www.abs-herbs.com.ph](http://www.abs-herbs.com.ph)

Available in leading drugstores and selected supermarkets nationwide. Sealed in Freshness.

**Shaping tomorrow's life for special kids**

A 1 day conference on issues concerning children with disabilities and special needs.

Includes Seminars:  
Can we just wait and observe?  
Sabay fayo, kapamilya  
Homestyle learning for the special child  
Plan, do, act

Open to parents of children with disabilities and special needs, educators, students and professionals from medical and allied fields.

For more info:  
Call up Maria, Francis and Harris at telephone (02) 8108-8400 or Fax 0917 390 9202 or log on the internet at [www.speccid.org](http://www.speccid.org)

**MARCH 25, 2006, Saturday, 8:00AM - 3:00PM**  
Solarium Cafe, HAPCOR, Quezon Avenue corner Agham Road, Quezon City

Organized by:  
**Julia-Hill Events & Marketing Services**  
25th Floor Pweda Star Building, Pweda Avenue cor. 4th St. Pweda, Alabang, Muntinlupa City  
Telephone 02-8700-8800  
0917 390 9202